

## U.S. helicopters fired on in Gulf

AMMAN (AP) — American helicopters they machine gun fire from an oil platform and some unarmored small boats in the central Gulf early Sunday, U.S. officials said. The aircraft took "evasive action" and did not return the fire, they said. The incident occurred some 25 hours after a U.S. warship, on patrol duty further north, laid down a barrage of gunfire at two radar contacts believed to be Iranian speedboats moving toward one of the navy's offshore supply barges. The two shooting encounters came amid one of the longest sustained periods of quiet since the Gulf's so-called "tense war" began four years ago. There have been no reported attacks on shipping by either Iraq or Iran since Feb. 12. U.S. officials declined to identify the oil platform involved in Sunday's incident other than to say it was "in the central Gulf." They said, however, that it was not the Kuwait platform, the target of shelling by U.S. destroyers last October in a retaliatory raid for an Iranian missile strike that hit the U.S.-flagged tanker Sea Isle City at Kuwait.

Volume 13 Number 3724

AMMAN MONDAY MARCH 7, 1988, RAJAB 18, 1408

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

## Ureigat leaves for Baghdad

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Rashid Ureigat left for Baghdad Sunday at the head of a Jordanian delegation to take part in the 16th session of the Arab Labour Conference due to convene there today.

## Kuwait grants new aid for uprising

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait said Sunday it had granted \$5 million in fresh humanitarian aid to support the three-month-old Palestinian uprising in the Israeli occupied territories. Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashid Abdul Aziz Al Rashid told reporters after a weekly cabinet meeting the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, had ordered the money be donated to Palestinian hospitals and welfare associations.

## U.S. envoy holds talks in W. Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — A U.S. envoy met Muslim leaders in west Beirut Sunday for talks which political sources said dealt with reconciliation between the country's rival groups. The sources said April Glaspie, a State Department official, arrived from Damascus and met acting Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss and Parliament Speaker Hussein Hussein. Political sources said her visit to Lebanon was a prelude to the expected arrival next week in Damascus of U.S. Under-Secretary of State Richard Murphy.

## Libyans, Saudis to inspect planes in Egypt

CAIRO (R) — A team of Libyan and Saudi technicians arrived in Cairo Sunday to inspect four Libyan MiG-23 fighters which landed in Egypt last week, aviation sources said. President Hosni Mubarak said Saturday the Soviet-built jets, flown by Libyan pilots to an airbase in the western desert last Tuesday, would be allowed to return home after being examined. He said nothing about the whereabouts of the pilots, who were thought to be still in Egypt. The inspection team arrived aboard a Libyan military plane from Riyadh following mediation efforts by King Fahd of Saudi Arabia at the request of Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi.

## Swedish minister to see Peres in Israel

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Sweden's Foreign Minister Sten Anderson Saturday left for Israel where he will meet Shimon Peres and encourage his Israeli colleague to keep working for an international peace conference, Swedish Television reported. Sweden traditionally supports Israel, but has repeatedly urged the Israeli government to withdraw from the occupied territories and to recognise the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). During the last three months of uprising in the occupied territories, Anderson sharply criticised the Israeli army's policy of "violence and beating and the use of sharp ammunition against defenceless people."

## INSIDE

- Kidnappers shift activities from Beirut to South Lebanon, page 2
- Senate approves amendment to tourism law, page 3
- Talking at grass-root level, page 4
- Lynching chills those who aid Israelis, page 5
- Graf takes Texas hard court title, page 6
- Vatican projects record budget deficit, page 7
- ASALA backs Armenian demands, appeals to Gorbachev, page 8

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation  
جورдан تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالإنجليزية عن الصحيفة العربية «الرأي»

## Pakistan withholds final word

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistan sent its negotiator back to Geneva Sunday to resume talks on the Afghan conflict but withheld a decision on signing a proposed peace accord. The U.N.-mediated indirect talks between Pakistan and the Soviet-backed Afghan government are to resume Monday after a two-day recess, during which the Pakistani government consulted leading opposition politicians. A statement after the two-day conference at Rawalpindi near Islamabad quoted Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo as saying he would decide what to do in the "national interest." A Junejo aide promised an early decision but there was no official word when it would be made. Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Zain Noorani left for Geneva via Moscow after briefing the conference about the talks, where he leads the Pakistani delegation. Before leaving, he told reporters who asked whether he would meet any Soviet official on the way. "I am going to Geneva, that's all," he said. He also declined to speak to reporters about the latest position of Pakistan, which wants a neutral transitional government in Afghanistan before signing any accord.



His Majesty King Hussein Sunday confers with Spanish Parliament Speaker Felix Pons (Petra photo)

## King briefs Spanish parliament speaker

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday briefed Spanish Parliament Speaker Felix Pons on Jordan's stand towards establishing peace in the Middle East and its call for an international peace conference to be attended by the five U.N. Security Council permanent member states and all parties to the conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

The King thanked Spain for its support of Arab causes. The audience was attended by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Lower House Speaker Akef Al Fayed, Jordan's ambassador to Spain and the Spanish ambassador to Jordan.

Rifa'i lauds Jordanian-Spanish ties, page 3

## Israeli press publishes Shultz peace proposal

TEL AVIV (R) — An Israeli newspaper published Sunday what it said was a photocopy of the Middle East peace plan submitted in a letter by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

Publishing of the one-page letter by the mass-circulation *Yediot Ahronot* appeared to remove the last shred of confidentiality from a document which Israeli officials began to divulge selectively as soon as it was handed to Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres last Friday.

The prime minister's office declined to say whether or not the letter was genuine.

"We did not give it out, so we do not confirm it," spokesman Avi Pazner said.

Officials said identically-worded letters were delivered to the governments of Jordan, Syria and Egypt.

The plan appears to give a greater role to a U.N.-sponsored international peace conference than previously disclosed by U.S. and Israeli officials.

The following is the full text of the letter, signed by Shultz, according to *Yediot Ahronot*:

Dear Mr. Prime Minister,  
I set forth below the statement of understandings which I am convinced is necessary to achieve the prompt opening of negotiations on a comprehensive peace. This statement of understandings emerges from discussions held with you and other regional leaders. I look forward to the letter of reply of the government of Israel in confirmation of this statement.

The agreed objective is a comprehensive peace providing for the security of all the states in the region and for the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

Negotiations will start on an early date certain between Israel and each of its neighbours which is willing to do so. These negotiations could begin by May 1, 1988. Each of these negotiations will be based on United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, in all their parts. The parties to each bilateral negotiation will determine the procedure and agenda of their negotiation. All participants in the negotiations must state their willingness to negotiate with one another.

As concerns negotiations between the Israeli delegation and Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, negotiations will begin on arrangements for a transitional period, with the objective of completing them within six months. Seven months after transitional negotiations begin, final status negotiations will begin with the objective of completing them within one year. These negotiations will be based on all the provisions and principles of United Nations Security Council Resolution 242. Final status talks will start before the transitional period begins. The transitional period will begin three months after the conclusion of the transitional agreement and will last for three years. The United States will participate in both negotiations and will promote their rapid conclusion. In particular, the United States will submit a draft agreement for the parties' consideration at the outset of the negotiations on transitional arrangements.

Two weeks before the opening of negotiations, an international conference will be held. The secretary general of the United Nations will be asked to issue invitations to the parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict and the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council. All participants in the conference must accept United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, and renounce violence and terrorism. The parties to each bilateral negotiations may refer reports on the status of their negotiations to the conference, in a manner to be agreed. The conference will not be able to impose solutions or veto agreements reached.

Palestinian representation will be within the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. The Palestinian issue will be addressed in the negotiations between the Jordanian-Palestinian and Israeli delegations. Negotiations between the Israeli delegation and the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation will proceed independently of any other negotiations.

This statement of understandings is an integral whole. The United States understands that your acceptance is dependent on the implementation of each element in good faith.

Sincerely yours,  
George P. Shultz.

## Two more Arabs killed; Israeli troops storm, besiege hospitals

# Palestinians stage defiant 'Flag Day'

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli soldiers shot to death two Palestinian teen-agers Sunday as protesters hoisted hundreds of Palestinian flags in the occupied territories during a "Flag Day."

Soldiers stormed a Gaza City hospital to arrest suspected Palestinian stone-throwers, including one reportedly dragged from his bed. In the West Bank, troops besieged a second hospital after Palestinians on rooftops threw stones and a firebomb at soldiers below.

Sunday's fatalities brought to 86 the number of Palestinians killed since the Palestinian uprising erupted in the occupied territories Dec. 8, according to U.N. figures.

In newly released figures, Israel army radio said 73 Palestinians had been killed in clashes with soldiers, 45 of them in the West Bank and the rest in the Gaza Strip. A total of 654 others were wounded by gunfire.

The radio said 169 Israeli soldiers and 117 civilians had been

(Continued on page 4)



An Israeli soldier 'keeps watch' on an arrested Palestinian boy

## Israeli ministers clash over U.S. plan

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel's divided cabinet clashed Sunday over whether to respond to a U.S. Middle East peace initiative ahead of a visit to Washington by Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir this month.

Israeli news reports said the proposals, submitted Friday by Secretary of State George Shultz to the right-wing Shamir and his Labour Party rival, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, called for a unified Israeli response soon.

At a weekly cabinet meeting, Labour ministers demanded that the 10-man inner cabinet should vote before Shamir's departure on the plan aimed at ending the 11-week Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza.

"We must decide on our answer to the American document before the prime minister's departure next Sunday," Economics Minister Gad Ya'acobi of Labour told reporters.

Iraq has reported at least 94 civilians killed and more than 210 wounded since the missile tit-for-tat began last Monday, while Iraq has reported many civilian casualties but no numbers.

Iraq says it has fired 38 missiles into the Iranian capital during that period and three into the holy city of Qom. Iran says it retaliated with 18 rockets launched later.

Shamir and members of his Likud bloc rejected the Labour demands and said no decision would be taken until Shamir returned from his U.S. visit, set for

(Continued on page 5)

## Iraq, Iran keep up missile attacks and air raids on cities

BAHRAYN (Agencies) — Iran and Iraq battered each other's cities with missiles and warplane raids Sunday, with no sign of a letup in a week of savage revenge duels.

Thousands of people marched through central Tehran to the Soviet embassy, claiming Moscow had supplied Iraq with long-range missiles, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said Iraq fired five long-range rockets into Tehran and jet fighters bombed 10 Iranian cities in retaliation for Iran's "criminal attacks on Iraqi civilian areas."

Iraq said it launched two missiles into Baghdad and four into other Iraqi cities, including Basra in the south, while Iranian warplanes bombed four cities or towns.

Both sides reported civilians killed or wounded in the missile and bombing attacks, but gave no figures.

Iraq has reported at least 94 civilians killed and more than 210 wounded since the missile tit-for-tat began last Monday, while Iraq has reported many civilian casualties but no numbers.

Iraq says it has fired 38 missiles into the Iranian capital during that period and three into the holy city of Qom. Iran says it retaliated with 18 rockets launched later.

Shamir and members of his Likud bloc rejected the Labour demands and said no decision would be taken until Shamir returned from his U.S. visit, set for

(Continued on page 5)

## EC welcomes U.S. efforts in Mideast

KONSTANZ, West Germany (Agencies) — The European Community (EC), eager to boost its role in world affairs, Sunday welcomed the Middle East peace initiative launched by the United States and reaffirmed its support for an international peace conference on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The EC also linked human rights improvements in the East Bloc to progress in East-West talks to cut conventional forces in Europe.

West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher said the issues had been the main topics at a two-day meeting of the community's 12 foreign ministers which ended here Sunday.

He said ministers had discussed the need to bring the Vienna Conference on Security and

(Continued on page 4)

## Arabs see Shultz plan as step forward, but flawed

By Alistair Lyon

Reuter

AMMAN — Arab states from Syria to Egypt have sniffed a carrot in the new U.S. peace plan but before they bite they want to ensure their minimum terms for an overall Middle East settlement can be met.

Written proposals by Secretary of State George Shultz to Arab and Israeli leaders last week have drawn a cautious welcome from Arab countries pleased by mention of an international conference and Palestinian rights.

But the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) denounced the Shultz plan as a plot to quash a 12-week-old Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"The PLO warns against the dangers of the American plot," the Tunis-based PLO's 15-man Executive Committee said in its first response to Shultz's nine-day peace mission to the Middle East.

Syria gave a mild welcome to the U.S. suggestions, but Damascus Radio said they would remain mere slogans unless they were shaped into a "suitable formula."

"The United States began to speak about an international conference and legitimate rights of the Palestinians and this is a good thing compared with Washington's previous stand which rejected the conference and spoke of Palestinians as refugees," the radio said.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak publicly welcomed

the Shultz proposals as encouraging and constructive.

Jordan has yet to comment publicly on the plan.

Arab demands also focus on a comprehensive settlement exchanging land for peace, Palestinian self-determination and a PLO seat at a U.N.-sponsored peace conference.

PLO leader Yasser Arafat, in a U.S. television interview Saturday, said no solution was possible unless the United States dropped its refusal to meet the PLO.

But he also repeated that the PLO was prepared to recognise Israel in the context of U.N. resolutions, including 242 and 338.

The Shultz plan falls well short of Palestinian demands for an independent state and a purported text published in the

Whatever their reservations, Arab leaders seem unlikely to resolve Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's dilemma by rejecting the U.S. plan before Shultz's informal deadline for replies expires in 10 days.

Shamir, due in Washington March 14, fiercely opposes any process that might lead to an Israeli withdrawal from the occupied West Bank, Gaza Strip or Golani Heights.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres advocates "territorial compromise," though he rejects the idea of a Palestinian state or total withdrawal from all Israeli-occupied lands.

Jordan and other Arab states have voiced scepticism about Washington's willingness to press its Israeli ally to make concessions that could form the basis for a lasting peace.

## Kidnappers shift activities from Beirut to S. Lebanon

**BEIRUT (R)** — Foreigners working in South Lebanon have fallen victim to the kidnap epidemic after escaping for years the anti-Western sentiment that plagued mainly Muslim west Beirut.

Political observers and Shi'ite Muslim sources say that with the main exodus of foreigners from west Beirut, kidnappers have geared their activities to the South, controlled by several opposition militias and a stronghold for Palestinian commandos.

Only a few Westerners still brave kidnap risks in west Beirut after the bulk of the community and embassies evacuated the western sector in 1986.

Unidentified gunmen have kidnapped five foreigners — two Scandinavians, an American, a Briton and a Syrian — in the southern ports of Sidon and Tyre over the past month in the first ever mass kidnap wave in the area.

Swede Jan Stening and Norwegian William Joergensen, freed after 26 days in captivity, were reported held by Palestinians.

U.S. Marine Colonel William Higgins was seized near Tyre on

Feb. 17 while Briton Peter Colbridge and Syrian Omar Trabulus were taken in Sidon on March 3.

One political observer said the deployment in February last year of more than 7,000 Syrian troops in west Beirut has contributed to a shift in kidnapping to the South.

"There is a major force in charge of security in west Beirut and kidnappers have been forced to give in and release those they seized there."

"But in the South there are many groups so kidnappers won't face any major pressure or threat," one observer said.

Two foreigners, American Charles Glass and West German Ralph Schray, were seized since the Syrian deployment. Both men have been released after reported Syrian pressure and threats.

Palestinian factions maintain a stronghold at refugee camps in Sidon and Tyre. The Sunni Muslim Popular Liberation Army,

### U.S. senators criticise Shamir

**NEW YORK (R)** — Thirty U.S. senators, including some of Israel's strongest supporters, have written a letter saying Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and his Likud Party may be obstructing Middle East peace efforts, the New York Times reported Sunday.

The newspaper said the letter

was addressed to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, who returned home Saturday after a peace mission to the region.

Although the letter criticised some Arab states, congressional aides said it was intended to send a message to Shamir and his Likud-Bloc supporters, the newspaper said.

### Pipeline promoter reportedly cooperating in Meese probe

**NEW YORK (R)** — A probe of allegations that the U.S. attorney general might have known of proposed pay-offs to the Israeli Labour Party in connection with a pipeline project seems to be ending, the New York Times said Sunday.

A signal of the possible close of the inquiry into the role of Attorney General Edwin Meese, it said, was that Special Prosecutor James McKay had granted Swiss businessman Bruce Rappaport immunity from prosecution in return for his cooperation, unless he commits perjury.

McKay is investigating whether the Iraq-to-Jordan pipeline, which was never built, involved plans to make a series of payments to Israel and the Israeli Labour Party totalling at least \$700 million.

"The move to secure Mr. Rappaport's cooperation is significant because it suggests that Mr.

Rappaport hired Meese's friend Bob Wallach, it said, to secure U.S. government support for the pipeline. The payments proposal is contained in a confidential memo from Wallach to Meese which the attorney general has made public.

Walsh, who commutes to his home in Oklahoma City each weekend, has been spending more time each week in Washington, sometimes leaving for home

Friday instead of Thursday.

The flurry of activity strongly suggests that Walsh is putting the final touches on indictments against targets of his investigation.

Charges are expected against ex-National Security Adviser John Poindexter, former National Security Council (NSC) aide Lt. Col. Oliver L. North and two arms dealers who brokered the transactions: former Air Force Maj. Gen. Richard V. Secord and his one-time partner, Albert Hakim.

Walsh is expected to bring broad charges of conspiracy to defraud the U.S. government through the diversion of profits from U.S. arms sales to Iran to the Nicaraguan rebels in 1985 and 1986 have been expected for months.

But the tight-lipped prosecutor has made a number of recent moves that clearly suggest indictments are imminent within the next few weeks.

Last month, for instance, Walsh hired former U.S. District Judge Herbert Stern to represent his office against legal challenges to "possible prosecutions."

The grand jury that has met secretly since late January 1987 was recalled for additional questioning of a number of witnesses who testified months ago — another sign that Walsh's staff of 28 prosecutors is presenting the final pieces of evidence before seeking indictments.

Walsh, who commutes to his home in Oklahoma City each weekend, has been spending more time each week in Washington, sometimes leaving for home

Friday instead of Thursday.

The flurry of activity strongly suggests that Walsh is putting the final touches on indictments against targets of his investigation.

Charges are expected against ex-National Security Adviser John Poindexter, former National Security Council (NSC) aide Lt. Col. Oliver L. North and two arms dealers who brokered the transactions: former Air Force Maj. Gen. Richard V. Secord and his one-time partner, Albert Hakim.

Walsh is expected to bring broad charges of conspiracy to defraud the U.S. government through the diversion of profits from U.S. arms sales to Iran to the Nicaraguan rebels in 1985 and 1986 have been expected for months.

But the tight-lipped prosecutor has made a number of recent moves that clearly suggest indictments are imminent within the next few weeks.

Last month, for instance, Walsh hired former U.S. District Judge Herbert Stern to represent his office against legal challenges to "possible prosecutions."

The grand jury that has met secretly since late January 1987 was recalled for additional questioning of a number of witnesses who testified months ago — another sign that Walsh's staff of 28 prosecutors is presenting the final pieces of evidence before seeking indictments.

Walsh, who commutes to his home in Oklahoma City each weekend, has been spending more time each week in Washington, sometimes leaving for home

Friday instead of Thursday.

The flurry of activity strongly suggests that Walsh is putting the final touches on indictments against targets of his investigation.

Charges are expected against ex-National Security Adviser John Poindexter, former National Security Council (NSC) aide Lt. Col. Oliver L. North and two arms dealers who brokered the transactions: former Air Force Maj. Gen. Richard V. Secord and his one-time partner, Albert Hakim.

Walsh is expected to bring broad charges of conspiracy to defraud the U.S. government through the diversion of profits from U.S. arms sales to Iran to the Nicaraguan rebels in 1985 and 1986 have been expected for months.

But the tight-lipped prosecutor has made a number of recent moves that clearly suggest indictments are imminent within the next few weeks.

Last month, for instance, Walsh hired former U.S. District Judge Herbert Stern to represent his office against legal challenges to "possible prosecutions."

The grand jury that has met secretly since late January 1987 was recalled for additional questioning of a number of witnesses who testified months ago — another sign that Walsh's staff of 28 prosecutors is presenting the final pieces of evidence before seeking indictments.

Walsh, who commutes to his home in Oklahoma City each weekend, has been spending more time each week in Washington, sometimes leaving for home

Friday instead of Thursday.

The flurry of activity strongly suggests that Walsh is putting the final touches on indictments against targets of his investigation.

Charges are expected against ex-National Security Adviser John Poindexter, former National Security Council (NSC) aide Lt. Col. Oliver L. North and two arms dealers who brokered the transactions: former Air Force Maj. Gen. Richard V. Secord and his one-time partner, Albert Hakim.

Walsh is expected to bring broad charges of conspiracy to defraud the U.S. government through the diversion of profits from U.S. arms sales to Iran to the Nicaraguan rebels in 1985 and 1986 have been expected for months.

But the tight-lipped prosecutor has made a number of recent moves that clearly suggest indictments are imminent within the next few weeks.

Last month, for instance, Walsh hired former U.S. District Judge Herbert Stern to represent his office against legal challenges to "possible prosecutions."

The grand jury that has met secretly since late January 1987 was recalled for additional questioning of a number of witnesses who testified months ago — another sign that Walsh's staff of 28 prosecutors is presenting the final pieces of evidence before seeking indictments.

Walsh, who commutes to his home in Oklahoma City each weekend, has been spending more time each week in Washington, sometimes leaving for home

Friday instead of Thursday.

The flurry of activity strongly suggests that Walsh is putting the final touches on indictments against targets of his investigation.

Charges are expected against ex-National Security Adviser John Poindexter, former National Security Council (NSC) aide Lt. Col. Oliver L. North and two arms dealers who brokered the transactions: former Air Force Maj. Gen. Richard V. Secord and his one-time partner, Albert Hakim.

Walsh is expected to bring broad charges of conspiracy to defraud the U.S. government through the diversion of profits from U.S. arms sales to Iran to the Nicaraguan rebels in 1985 and 1986 have been expected for months.

But the tight-lipped prosecutor has made a number of recent moves that clearly suggest indictments are imminent within the next few weeks.

Last month, for instance, Walsh hired former U.S. District Judge Herbert Stern to represent his office against legal challenges to "possible prosecutions."

The grand jury that has met secretly since late January 1987 was recalled for additional questioning of a number of witnesses who testified months ago — another sign that Walsh's staff of 28 prosecutors is presenting the final pieces of evidence before seeking indictments.

Walsh, who commutes to his home in Oklahoma City each weekend, has been spending more time each week in Washington, sometimes leaving for home

Friday instead of Thursday.

The flurry of activity strongly suggests that Walsh is putting the final touches on indictments against targets of his investigation.

Charges are expected against ex-National Security Adviser John Poindexter, former National Security Council (NSC) aide Lt. Col. Oliver L. North and two arms dealers who brokered the transactions: former Air Force Maj. Gen. Richard V. Secord and his one-time partner, Albert Hakim.

Walsh is expected to bring broad charges of conspiracy to defraud the U.S. government through the diversion of profits from U.S. arms sales to Iran to the Nicaraguan rebels in 1985 and 1986 have been expected for months.

But the tight-lipped prosecutor has made a number of recent moves that clearly suggest indictments are imminent within the next few weeks.

Last month, for instance, Walsh hired former U.S. District Judge Herbert Stern to represent his office against legal challenges to "possible prosecutions."

The grand jury that has met secretly since late January 1987 was recalled for additional questioning of a number of witnesses who testified months ago — another sign that Walsh's staff of 28 prosecutors is presenting the final pieces of evidence before seeking indictments.

Walsh, who commutes to his home in Oklahoma City each weekend, has been spending more time each week in Washington, sometimes leaving for home

Friday instead of Thursday.

The flurry of activity strongly suggests that Walsh is putting the final touches on indictments against targets of his investigation.

Charges are expected against ex-National Security Adviser John Poindexter, former National Security Council (NSC) aide Lt. Col. Oliver L. North and two arms dealers who brokered the transactions: former Air Force Maj. Gen. Richard V. Secord and his one-time partner, Albert Hakim.

Walsh is expected to bring broad charges of conspiracy to defraud the U.S. government through the diversion of profits from U.S. arms sales to Iran to the Nicaraguan rebels in 1985 and 1986 have been expected for months.

But the tight-lipped prosecutor has made a number of recent moves that clearly suggest indictments are imminent within the next few weeks.

Last month, for instance, Walsh hired former U.S. District Judge Herbert Stern to represent his office against legal challenges to "possible prosecutions."

The grand jury that has met secretly since late January 1987 was recalled for additional questioning of a number of witnesses who testified months ago — another sign that Walsh's staff of 28 prosecutors is presenting the final pieces of evidence before seeking indictments.

Walsh, who commutes to his home in Oklahoma City each weekend, has been spending more time each week in Washington, sometimes leaving for home

Friday instead of Thursday.

The flurry of activity strongly suggests that Walsh is putting the final touches on indictments against targets of his investigation.

Charges are expected against ex-National Security Adviser John Poindexter, former National Security Council (NSC) aide Lt. Col. Oliver L. North and two arms dealers who brokered the transactions: former Air Force Maj. Gen. Richard V. Secord and his one-time partner, Albert Hakim.

Walsh is expected to bring broad charges of conspiracy to defraud the U.S. government through the diversion of profits from U.S. arms sales to Iran to the Nicaraguan rebels in 1985 and 1986 have been expected for months.

But the tight-lipped prosecutor has made a number of recent moves that clearly suggest indictments are imminent within the next few weeks.

Last month, for instance, Walsh hired former U.S. District Judge Herbert Stern to represent his office against legal challenges to "possible prosecutions."

The grand jury that has met secretly since late January 1987 was recalled for additional questioning of a number of witnesses who testified months ago — another sign that Walsh's staff of 28 prosecutors is presenting the final pieces of evidence before seeking indictments.

Walsh, who commutes to his home in Oklahoma City each weekend, has been spending more time each week in Washington, sometimes leaving for home

Friday instead of Thursday.

The flurry of activity strongly suggests that Walsh is putting the final touches on indictments against targets of his investigation.

Charges are expected against ex-National Security Adviser John Poindexter, former National Security Council (NSC) aide Lt. Col. Oliver L. North and two arms dealers who brokered the transactions: former Air Force Maj. Gen. Richard V. Secord and his one-time partner, Albert Hakim.

Walsh is expected to bring broad charges of conspiracy to defraud the U.S. government through the diversion of profits from U.S. arms sales to Iran to the Nicaraguan rebels in 1985 and 1986 have been expected for months.

But the tight-lipped prosecutor has made a number of recent moves that clearly suggest indictments are imminent within the next few weeks.

Last month, for instance, Walsh hired former U.S. District Judge Herbert Stern to represent his office against legal challenges to "possible prosecutions."

The grand jury that has met secretly since late January 1987 was recalled for additional questioning of a number of witnesses who testified months ago — another sign that Walsh's staff of 28 prosecutors is presenting the final pieces of evidence before seeking indictments.

Walsh, who commutes to his home in Oklahoma City each weekend, has been spending more time each week in Washington, sometimes leaving for home

Friday instead of Thursday.

The flurry of activity strongly suggests that Walsh is putting the final touches on indictments against targets of his investigation.

Charges are expected against ex-National Security Adviser John Poindexter, former National Security Council (NSC) aide Lt. Col. Oliver L. North and two arms dealers who brokered the transactions: former Air Force Maj. Gen. Richard V. Secord and his one-time partner, Albert Hakim.

Walsh is expected to bring broad charges of conspiracy to defraud the U.S. government through the diversion of profits from U.S. arms sales to Iran to the Nicaraguan rebels in 1985 and 1986 have been expected for months.

But the tight-lipped prosecutor has made a number of recent moves that clearly suggest indictments are imminent within the next few weeks.

Last month, for instance, Walsh hired former U.S. District Judge Herbert Stern to represent his office against legal challenges to "possible prosecutions."

The grand jury that has met secretly since late January 1987 was recalled for additional questioning of a number of witnesses who testified months ago — another sign that Walsh's staff of 28 prosecutors is presenting the final pieces of evidence before seeking indictments.

Walsh, who commutes to his home in Oklahoma City each weekend, has been spending more time each week in Washington, sometimes leaving for home

Friday instead of Thursday.

The flurry of activity strongly suggests that Walsh is putting the final touches on indictments against targets of his investigation.

Charges are expected against ex-National Security Adviser John Poindexter, former National Security Council (NSC) aide Lt. Col. Oliver L. North and two arms dealers who brokered the transactions: former Air Force Maj. Gen. Richard V. Secord and his one-time partner, Albert Hakim.

Walsh is expected to bring broad charges of conspiracy to defraud the U.S. government through the diversion of profits from U.S. arms sales to Iran to the Nicaraguan rebels in 1985 and 1986 have been expected for months.

But the tight-lipped prosecutor has made a number of recent moves that clearly suggest indictments are imminent within the next few weeks.

Last month, for instance, Walsh hired former U.S. District Judge Herbert Stern to represent his office against legal challenges to "possible prosecutions."

The grand jury that has met secretly since late January 1987 was recalled for additional questioning of a number of witnesses who testified months ago — another sign that Walsh's staff of 28 prosecutors is presenting the final pieces of evidence before seeking indictments.

Walsh, who commutes to his home in Oklahoma City each weekend, has been spending more time each week in Washington, sometimes leaving for home

## Home news



15

**CONDEMNATION:** Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi Sunday received a copy of a statement made by the Euro-Arab Parliamentary Cooperation Association, in which it condemned the brutal Israeli measures against Palestinians in the occupied territories and called on the international community, particularly Europe, to intensify efforts for a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

**CHILD-CARE:** The Health Ministry has decided to set up mother-and-child-care centres in the villages of Bushra, Dukra and Suleim in the Irbid Governorate.

**COMPETITION:** A reading competition for school children will open in Jerash Monday and the competitors will come from Irbid, Northern Jordan Valley region, Bani Kinanah, Ajloun, Mafrag, Ramtha, Qoura and Jerash, according to Department of Education officials. They said at least eight competitors from each district will participate.

**MEDICAL CHIEF:** Director of the Royal Medical Services Lt.-Gen. Dawoud Hananah, who is also director of the National Medical Institution, Sunday inspected Jerash Government Hospital and Hussein Hospital in Salt, where he was briefed on the services offered to citizens.

**CANADIAN ENVOY:** Foreign Ministry Secretary General Nabil Al Nimr Sunday reviewed means of developing bilateral relations with Canadian Ambassador to Jordan Michael Bill.

**SHOPS CLOSED:** Amman Governor Mohammad Ali Antun, who is also chairman of the Public Security Committee, said Sunday the committee has closed a number of shops in Wihdat, Jabal Hussein, Jabal Al Nasr and has warned five others for violating the public safety and health laws.

**JAIL TERM:** The military governor has endorsed the military court verdict sentencing Samir Abdullah Hassan Kamel to two years in prison and a fine of JD 300 for dealing with hashish.

**TARAWNEH:** Civil Defence Department (CDD) Director Lieutenant General Khaled Tarawneh Sunday inspected work on a new civil defence centre at the Balqa governorate, and was briefed on the progress of work. He was told that the local department is currently holding three courses to orient teachers in the Jordan Valley region on civil defence work. Tarawneh visited civil defence centres in South Shuneh and Deir Alla and urged officers to be ready to offer whatever emergency assistance needed by the public in their regions.

**HORN BLOWERS:** Police patrols have been instructed to apprehend drivers of roving vehicles that blow their horn trying to attract attention of households wishing to buy gas cylinders. Amman Police Director Yousef Gharibeh said. He was speaking at a meeting with the owners of gas cylinder stores with whom he discussed the process of selling gas cylinders and the security and regulations pertaining to this process. He said that blowing horns to attract buyers' attention has been causing nuisance to the public and the peddlers have been violating the law and traffic regulations.

**COOPERATION:** Yarmouk University President Mohammad Hamdan Sunday discussed scientific and cultural cooperation between the university and the Kuwaiti scientific institutions with Kuwait embassy's Cultural Attaché Yousef Khreiber.

**ISLAMIC BOOKS:** Yarmouk University President Mohammad Hamdan Monday opened an exhibition of Islamic books at the university's Centre for Islamic Studies. On display at the 10-day exhibition are collections of historical, literary, and religious books besides books for children.

**212 COURSES:** Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) has drawn up a training plan for 1988 which entails holding 212 training courses. The courses deal with administration, financial, analysis, computer and technical fields.

**ILO CHIEF:** International Labour Organisation Director General Francis Blanchard is due here on April 13 on a four-day visit to Jordan during which he will have talks with Jordanian officials on promoting and bolstering cooperation between Jordan and the ILO.

The Spanish parliamentary delegation Sunday visits the Baqaa Refugee Camp (Petra photo)

## Rifai lauds Jordanian-Spanish ties

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai Sunday lauded Jordanian-Spanish relations and said that the current visit to Jordan by a Spanish parliamentary delegation, is bound to further consolidate these relations and enhance ties of friendship between the people of both countries.

The prime minister was speaking at a meeting with the Spanish parliamentary delegation, led by Parliament Speaker Felix Pons, with whom he reviewed the development of bilateral relations under the guidance of Their Majesties King Hussein and King Juan Carlos of Spain.

"Jordanian-Spanish relations date back to the time of the late King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein, founder of the Kingdom in the early 1950s, and since then these relations have been growing and flourishing," Rifai said.

For his part Pons said bilateral relations were based on mutual respect and close cooperation in all fields.

The meeting, held at the prime minister's office at the parliament building, was attended by Spanish Ambassador to Jordan Ramon Armengod.

**Lawzi meets Spanish MPs**  
Earlier Sunday, Pons and his

delegation were received by the Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Lawzi, with whom they reviewed the situation in the Middle East in general and the Israeli-held Arab territories in particular.

Pons told Lawzi that his country remains neutral in the Gulf war and does not support any party against another, but it pursues efforts on the international level to end this war by implementing the U.N. Security Council Resolution 598.

Lawzi reiterated Jordan's firm stand with regard to a lasting settlement in the Middle East, based on U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, and said the ongoing uprising by the Palestinian people in the occupied territories was a result of Israeli oppression and inhuman practices against the Arab population over the past 20 years.

He said that the Amman summit meeting has endorsed the idea of an international conference which would bring about a lasting peace to the Middle East, and help the Palestinian people regain their rights and their lands.

Lawzi said Spain holds a unique position within the European Community and can play a major role in supporting the peace process.

He also said that Jordan and Spain ought to cooperate in parliamentary affairs and in promoting the cause of world peace.

### Visit to Baqaa camp

After the meeting, the Spanish delegation visited the Baqaa Refugee Camp and heard a briefing on services offered to the refugees by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) and Jordan.

The delegation toured parts of the camp and looked into the living conditions of its residents, and the health and educational services offered to them.

They were accompanied on the tour by U.N. officials from UNRWA and the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs.

Prime Minister Zaid Rifai Sunday receives Spanish parliamentary delegation at the parliament building in Amman (Petra photo)

## Jordan to submit draft resolution on occupied territories at ALO meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan's delegation to the Baghdad meeting of the Arab Labour Organisation (ALO), will submit a draft resolution on the protection of Arab workers and employers in the occupied Arab territories, according to a statement issued by the Ministry of Labour and Social Development here.

The meeting, chaired by ministry Secretary General Saleh Kha-

sawneh, emphasised the importance of Jordan's participation in the coming meeting and its subcommittees' activities.

The agenda of the Baghdad meeting was reviewed at the meeting which was attended by representatives of the government, the workers and the employers.

Once the draft resolution is adopted it will be taken to the International Labour Organisa-

tion's (ILO) meeting which will be convened in Geneva in June, according to the statement.

The statement was issued after a meeting held at the Ministry of Labour and Social Development, to discuss subjects to be taken up by the Baghdad conference.

The meeting, chaired by ministry Secretary General Saleh Kha-

sawneh, emphasised the importance of Jordan's participation in the coming meeting and its subcommittees' activities.

The agenda of the Baghdad meeting was reviewed at the meeting which was attended by representatives of the government, the workers and the employers.

According to the terms of the contracts, signed with an Italian

working paper to the conference, featuring his department's activities, especially training of personnel for various government departments, and seminars for leading employees filling higher positions.

Ulayyan signed documents for the establishment of an Arab society of experts on administrative development, which will open a branch in Amman early next year.

Ulayyan held contacts with different delegates taking part in the meetings, to discuss their countries' cooperation with Jordan in manpower development and public administration work.

"We drew up new marketing strategy for Jordan," he said.

Abu Nuwar explained that during the high season — Christmas, New Year and Easter — Jordan has a sufficient flow of visitors, but it was during the rest of the year, especially during the period from June till October when the Kingdom needed extra marketing.

According to Abu Nuwar, guaranteeing a steady flow of tourists all year round, would bring in more business, and consequently more money, thus eventually reflecting positively on Jordan's national income.

Other participants at the Jordanian booth in the Milan fair included Mr. Rafiq Al Laham, deputy under-secretary of the Ministry of Tourism, as well as the Director of Royal Jordanian in Italy.

All the participants held meetings with many tour operators, which resulted in the signing of contracts with the Siesta Viaggi Group of Italy and the Friedrich Alexander University of Ger-

## Senate approves amendment to Tourism Law after debate

By Nermeen Murad  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — An amendment to the Tourism Law was passed by the Upper House of Parliament (Senate) Sunday after a long debate by several Senate members, who upheld that some articles in the amendment law defeated their purpose and need not be included.

Senator Mudar Badran and Senator Ahmad Tarawneh registered reservations on article four of the amendment law, because they felt that the said article collided with the stipulated prerogatives and laws of the Council of Higher Education.

Badran, who also expressed reservation on the same article, told the Senate that he agreed with Rifai's explanation and it is on that same basis that he has placed his reservation.

Badran said: "If this article calls for acquiring the approval of the Higher Education Council, then it should not be in the law, because according to the Higher Education Law, the Ministry of Tourism has to ask for approval from the council for establishing a specialised college anyway."

Senator Walid Salah, noted

that "article four is included in this law, as it should be, because it points out the specialisations of the Ministry of Tourism, and it should be read as such."

Senator Hassan Al Kayed, in agreement with the prime minister and Salah, said that article four of the amendment law is

legally valid and correct and does not infringe on the privileges of the Ministry of Higher Education.

"This article encourages cooperation and coordination between the two ministries," Kayed said.

Article 13 Part C of the Tourism Law was changed by the Senate Legal Committee drawing criticism from Salah.

The original article as presented by the Lower House of Parliament stipulated that funds allocated for marketing, promoting and training will not be exempted from the income tax unless the minister of tourism certifies that these funds were actually spent for these purposes.

The proposed correction, which was later approved, changed the wording of the article by changing "allocated funds" to "expenses" and "exempted" to "deductible."

Salah called upon the Senate to disregard the changes, describing them as "not fitting and useless," and to approve the Tourism Amendment Law in its entirety as originally presented to the Senate by the Lower House of Parliament.

The amendment to the Tourism Law was referred back to the Lower House of Parliament for approval after changes were made by the Senate Legal Committee and approved by the Senate.

The Senate also discussed the



Prime Minister Zaid Rifai speaks during the Senate session Sunday (Petra photos)

## Princess Basma visits Aqaba youth club

AMMAN (J.T.) — Civil Defence authorities have saved 50 foreign tourists from floods that hit the Wadi Mousa region near the Nabataean city of Petra, according to a report in Al Ra'i Arabic daily Sunday.

The paper quoted sources from the police and civil defence authorities as saying that army helicopters were called in to rescue the tourists who had been to the ancient city for a visit.

The report which listed incidents and accidents in the area over the previous 48 hours, said that at least one person died and 15 others were injured.

It also said eight fires broke out in a number of regions and were extinguished with the help of defence firemen.

## 50 tourists saved from floods

The paper quoted sources from the police and civil defence authorities as saying that army helicopters were called in to rescue the tourists who had been to the ancient city for a visit.

The report which listed inci-

dents and accidents in the area over the previous 48 hours, said that at least one person died and 15 others were injured.

It also said eight fires broke out in a number of regions and were extinguished with the help of defence firemen.

The paper quoted sources from the police and civil defence authorities as saying that army helicopters were called in to rescue the tourists who had been to the ancient city for a visit.

The report which listed inci-

dents and accidents in the area over the previous 48 hours, said that at least one person died and 15 others were injured.

It also said eight fires broke out in a number of regions and were extinguished with the help of defence firemen.

The paper quoted sources from the police and civil defence authorities as saying that army helicopters were called in to rescue the tourists who had been to the ancient city for a visit.

The report which listed inci-

dents and accidents in the area over the previous 48 hours, said that at least one person died and 15 others were injured.

It also said eight fires broke out in a number of regions and were extinguished with the help of defence firemen.

The paper quoted sources from the police and civil defence authorities as saying that army helicopters were called in to rescue the tourists who had been to the ancient city for a visit.

The report which listed inci-

dents and accidents in the area over the previous 48 hours, said that at least one person died and 15 others were injured.

It also said eight fires broke out in a number of regions and were extinguished with the help of defence firemen.

The paper quoted sources from the police and civil defence authorities as saying that army helicopters were called in to rescue the tourists who had been to the ancient city for a visit.

The report which listed inci-

dents and accidents in the area over the previous 48 hours, said that at least one person died and 15 others were injured.

It also said eight fires broke out in a number of regions and were extinguished with the help of defence firemen.

The paper quoted sources from the police and civil defence authorities as saying that army helicopters were called in to rescue the tourists who had been to the ancient city for a visit.

The report which listed inci-

dents and accidents in the area over the previous 48 hours, said that at least one person died and 15 others were injured.

It also said eight fires broke out in a number of regions and were extinguished with the help of defence firemen.

The paper quoted sources from the police and civil defence authorities as saying that army helicopters were called in to rescue the tourists who had been to the ancient city for a visit.

The report which listed inci-

dents and accidents in the area over the previous 48 hours, said that at least one person died and 15 others were injured.

It also said eight fires broke out in a number of regions and were extinguished with the help of defence firemen.

The paper quoted sources from the police and civil defence authorities as saying that army helicopters were called in to rescue the tourists who had been to the ancient city for a visit.

The report which listed inci-

dents and accidents in the area over the previous 48 hours, said that at least one person died and 15 others were injured.

It also said eight fires broke out in a number of regions and were extinguished with the help of defence firemen.

The paper quoted sources from the police and civil defence authorities as saying that army helicopters were called in to rescue the tourists who had been to the ancient city for a visit.

The report which listed inci-

dents and accidents in the area over the previous 48 hours, said that at least one person died and 15 others were injured.

It also said eight fires broke out in a number of regions and were extinguished with the help of defence firemen.

The paper quoted sources from the police and civil defence authorities as saying that army helicopters were called in to rescue the tourists who had been to the ancient city for a visit.

The report which listed inci-

dents and accidents in the area over the previous 48 hours, said that at least one person died and 15 others were injured.

It also said eight fires broke out in a number of regions and were extinguished with the help of defence firemen.

The paper quoted sources from the police and civil defence authorities as saying that army helicopters were called in to rescue the tourists who had been to the ancient city for a visit.

The report which listed inci-

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation  
Riyad Al-Balad 1978

Chairman of the Board of Directors:

MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Responsible Editor and Director General:

MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:

RAMI G. KHOURI

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation.

University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4, 666265-2

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Faximile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.  
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the  
Jordan Times advertising department.

## An encouraging trend

PORHAPS the most interesting and important part of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' recent shuttle mission in the Middle East was the shuttle-within-a-shuttle, which saw him holding separate meetings with the two leaders of the Israeli government coalition partners, Likud head Yitzhak Shamir and Labour leader Shimon Peres. The point which this highlights is that there is no clear Israeli vision of how peace is to be negotiated, or of the final shape of a negotiated Arab-Israeli peace. The worrying aspect of this is that the United States seems to be making proposals to the Arabs that must conform to dictates established by domestic constraints within Israel — that is, we are being asked to play ball within ground rules set by the reality of Israeli politics. All in all, this would not appear to be the most promising way to put together a package of peace proposals that would strike a balance between Arab and Israeli demands.

Nevertheless, there is merit in the fact that the United States is trying to work out a negotiating formula that satisfies the minimal demands of all concerned parties — and also that it is doing so in consultation with the Soviet Union. The United States has learned some important lessons since it last tried to mediate an Arab-Israeli peace some two years ago. No longer is Syria ostracised as the bad boy of the Holy Land. No longer is the Soviet Union seen as the spoiler of the world. And no longer is the United States rejecting the proposal of an international peace conference as an altogether worthless idea. These are positive elements, which indicate maturity, rationality and a capacity for change and compromise in the American position.

This is the trend that we in Jordan have always sought to budge forward, and it is important for all the Arabs to recognise the limited changes that have taken place in the American position. But much remains to be done, and we have a way to go before the Americans can be seen as genuinely impartial mediators in the Middle East. It would appear sensible for the Arab parties not to dismiss the American proposals outright, but to keep pushing the Americans to clarify the Israeli position.

## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

### Al Ra'i: On the helm of Arab efforts

WITH the return of His Majesty King Hussein to Amman, the Arab Nation's efforts towards winning more support for the international conference on the Middle East is bound to gain momentum. The king has been touring European countries seeking this conference to establish genuine peace based on the exchange of land for peace, and his endeavour is now bound to be corroborated through Jordan's continued contacts with Arab leaders. This step is essential because this nation cannot achieve any of its objectives without concerted efforts and unified action. Needless to say that Jordan has been keen on formulating a strong and united Arab position vis-à-vis the challenges posed to the Arabs and also with regard to the various initiatives seeking to end the Arab-Israeli conflict. For this reason, Jordan has been careful to reject all partial solutions and bilateral treaties with Israel, because they do not achieve the aspired Arab goals, and has instead been seeking a comprehensive settlement and lasting peace based on total Israeli withdrawal from Arab territory, and the recognition of the Palestinian people's rights in their own homeland. The King's efforts and his talks with European leaders during the latest tour and his talks with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz were part of Jordan's endeavours to regain usurped Arab land and rights.

### I Dustour: Uprising asserts people's rights

THE uprising of the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab land has asserted itself as a fact and imposed itself on the Israelis who seem incapable of stifling the spirit of resistance and imposing their will on the Arab people any more. Whether Israel or the United States admit it or not all future policies and ideas for solutions of the Middle East conflict will have to be based on this bright fact. This blessed uprising has opened the eyes of the world and aroused the slumbering conscience of many world nations, drawing everyone's attention to the rights of the oppressed people, suffering for long from Israel's atrocities and human rights violations. This uprising will no doubt greatly influence the coming Israeli parliamentary elections and will affect all future Israeli policies and plans. As the uprising is now completing its third month, we believe that the Palestinians are more determined than ever before to maintain the struggle for regaining their rights and their lands despite the heavy sacrifice, and the hardship encountered in the course of achieving their national goal.

### Sawt Al Shabab: Self-defence

IRAQ has sent a message to the U.N. secretary general reasserting its right to confront Iran's continued atrocities and crimes committed against the Iraqi people. Iraq has displayed self-restraint on numerous occasions and in the face of many Iranian provocations, standing firm and defending its people with honour. But this Iraqi attitude has been disregarded and more Iranian acts of aggression continued to be committed against this Arab country. These Iranian actions have prompted Iraq to retaliate and escalate the war of cities. The Iranian rocket attacks were instrumental in forcing Iraq to shell Iranian cities, and Iran's disregard to U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 which calls for an end to the conflict, has prompted Iraq to take the initiative and force the Iranian rulers to respond to the call of reason and to respect the will of the international community. Iraq has abided by a 1972 agreement which ended the war of the cities between Iran and Iraq, but has been forced to retaliate and fire back in self-defence.

# Talking at grass roots level

By Waleed Sadi

IF the principle of negotiations between the Arab parties and Israel has become as it seems a foregone conclusion and all that remains outstanding is the format of any such negotiations, then the issue of whether such negotiations should be conducted on a direct or indirect basis becomes a moot issue. This is not to suggest that the Arab side should forego all other options available to it to attain its rights, but rather to cut down to size the difference between direct and indirect negotiations. To be sure negotiations per se have never been a substitute to the principal instruments of policy for any state but rather a culmination of all such efforts which normally include political, military and economic pressures. But it appears that the Arab side has concluded that it has exhausted all the other options available to it in the conflict with Israel and has decided that time is now propitious for negotiations.

The specific point that I would like to submit here and now is that if, repeat, if, negotiations with Israel offer the only correct path, available to us whether we envision them to be under the aegis of the United Nations Security Council or otherwise, then why not start this process of negotiations on a piecemeal basis and step by step basis beginning with negotiations on non-governmental levels rather than start them off directly on governmental levels. The purpose and objective of any such non-governmental negotiations would be to discern, detect and gauge the grass roots support that the negotiations between the two sides do in fact enjoy. Such non-governmental negotiations or rather dialogue could also

measure and determine the basis and purview of any eventual state-state negotiations between the two sides. Surely such initial non-governmental dialogue or exchange of views and meeting would also serve as a testing ground for any future negotiations between the Arabs and Israel.

In this context one would venture to propose the start of any such non-governmental contacts by the intelligentsia of the two sides. University professors on both sides of the fence can start this process by entertaining exchange visits by their respective professors or other learned people from centres or institutions of higher learning and research with a view to address the academia sector of each other. One would expect that people equipped with high education can better articulate and formulate policies and guidelines for any future negotiations that could ensue at the end of the line of the proposed preparatory process. Such contacts on the intellectual level could be followed by contacts on other levels including the press, labour unions and representatives of other walks of life.

The reason I am proposing such a step by step methodology is because it has proved its viability and usefulness in the past in other regions of the world. In fact the evolution of relations between many countries which have been locked up in durable conflicts had indeed gone through such a process which served to lay the ground work for futuristic governmental contacts and negotiations.

A good place to start this process would be in the West Bank and

Gaza Strip where people there have already engaged themselves in considerable contacts with on more than one level. Yet most if not all such contacts were of the kind that could not advance the public welfare of either side in view of their highly individualistic character and lack of any effort to institutionalise and guide such contacts. Never has a Palestinian professor, for example, been invited to address the student body of an Israeli university. Yet one notices that Palestinian visits to various centres of Israel be clubs or amusement parks have been frequent and without any outrages against them by anybody. To be more specific, the Israeli restaurants on Lake Tiberias in the summer were normally full on Fridays with Arabs celebrating their sabath day. Instead of such contacts at this stage, one would propose contacts of other meaningful kinds which could deepen the understanding of each others perspectives and aspirations and I am not suggesting that institutionalised non-governmental contacts be a one way street. Of course one would encourage similar visits by the other side to places of higher educations on the Arab side in the occupied territories to be followed by visits by other spokesmen of other Israeli private walks of life.

Through such exchange of views on the levels of those who are in best situation and position to reflect and gauge public opinion can the two sides hope to arrive at an opportune time to engage in formal negotiations in a format that they can agree on.

# Palestinians want to be masters of their own lives

By Walid Awad

ANYONE observing the events in the occupied territories since early December 1987 will realise the degree of confusion in the Israeli establishment, confusion characterised by the ad hoc measures that were adopted to quell these events.

The sheer strength of the uprising and the momentum it acquired have surprised Israel and the world. World opinion in general and world Jewish opinion in particular felt that the actions of the occupation authorities were immoral and should be stopped. Israel's image in the "Free World" began to be tarnished and the country's credibility has been called into question.

Meanwhile, sophisticated Israelis cannot remain passive, as we Palestinians know very well. The intellectuals have made their feelings known.

The groups on the right of the Israeli political spectrum, because of the uncertainty about their future, started to shake, close ranks and take more extreme measures. The leftists because of their convictions and their traditional stand are now moving, I believe, in the right direction.

The political centre, encompassing both sections of Labour and Likud, has started to explore

possibilities of finding acceptable political solutions.

While most of this movement remains theoretical, the reality on the ground is different.

Deputy Chief of General Staff Ehud Barak in a briefing to the press recently, agreed that there is an uprising in the territories. "A few hundred, possibly a few thousand, Palestinian activists are behind this uprising, with the support and the cooperation of the masses," he said.

As a Palestinian living in this land, and through my discussions with older people, I would like to offer my opinion and impressions as to the best way to deal with the uprising, and try to put things into a Palestinian perspective.

The Palestinian people, through their uprising, have shown that they have had enough. The message to Israel and the rest of the world has been resounding, and although the uprising may subside, the cry has been loud and clear and the world has acknowledged it.

The Palestinian people are in the process of adjusting to living on a subsistence economy, and are now preparing themselves for the "worst."

There is apparently going to be a constant flow of people who are willing to defy death, let

alone anything else.

Discipline and cooperation among Palestinians is increasing.

To make the picture complete, we Palestinians are fully aware of the might of the Israeli armed forces and other Jewish and Israeli institutions. We are also fully aware of the apprehensions of Israel and the Israeli people.

We know that they are very suspicious. This suspicion, we believe, is due to the nature of the Jewish people's not-so-distant experience in Nazi Germany and the horrors of the Holocaust.

Paradoxically, their suffering has led to a complete denial of

books, beyond modification. Neither is Shamir's biblical mentality. What is needed now are people with vision on both sides to realise what is at stake.

These values and principles have given me the strength to maintain my belief that one day soon this occupation will cease, because the Jews, of all people, should be incapable of inflicting suffering on others, as they themselves have had more than their share of suffering.

alone anything else.

That in spite of the suffering and agony, my values and principles as a human being must remain sacred and preserved. Otherwise, we may as well not be humans.

We want our people to work in Palestinian factories, our labourers to build our own homes, and no longer be classified as cheap labour. We want the freedom of passage, to travel without being subjected to humiliating searches. We want to pay our taxes for the benefit of our people.

We want to be able to see, meet and talk to our brothers and sisters and families without having to queue for days, waiting and begging for permission which more often than not does not materialise.

We want control of our land, skies, water, electricity and natural resources. What's more, we want our Palestinian identity. Aren't these the things that Israelis have?

Only a Palestinian state can give us what we want, a state not replacing Israel but a state next to Israel. The Palestinian national charter is not the holiest of

books, beyond modification. Neither is Shamir's biblical mentality. What is needed now are people with vision on both sides to realise what is at stake.

Israel should allow the U.S. to begin a dialogue with the PLO, as only the PLO has the mandate to carry out meaningful negotiations that will achieve lasting peace.

We Palestinians of the West Bank have the extra responsibility of encouraging the peace process to start, by virtue of our experience in dealing with, and knowing fairly well (moderate) Israeli fears and aspirations. Selected Palestinian representatives from the territories, known to all concerned, should make up the majority of the Palestinian negotiating team, together with representatives chosen by the Palestinian's legislature, the PNC, and its executive, the PLO. This is the only conceivable team capable of producing the desired results.

Those Israelis concerned with peace, based on human dignity and freedom, should respond with vigour to our call for independence, as both our peoples taken as equals in our legitimate right, can contribute tremendously to the betterment of our lives and to the prosperity of the whole area — The Jerusalem Post.

## Continued from page one

# Palestinians observe defiant 'Flag Day' in West Bank and Gaza

(Continued from page 1)

injured. Most of those hurt were hit by stones.

The army said soldiers wounded three Palestinians in protests, while Arab reports put the number at eight and said an additional two Arabs were shot and wounded overnight.

Palestinians said soldiers shot dead Khader Al Ardah, 17, when they fired live ammunition to disperse protesters at Askar refugee camp.

A spokeswoman at Jerusalem's Hadassah hospital said Ardah died after being shot in the head.

In Ma'alul Al Sharqiyeh village, near Ramallah, troops shot 18-year-old Ayman Salim Ajuk, who died later in hospital, Palestinian and hospital sources said.

The Palestine Press Service (PPS) reported soldiers shot dead a donkey in Qalqilia with a Palestinian flag tied to its head and an Israeli flag attached to the tail after they were unable to catch it. The agency said soldiers then burned the Palestinian flag.

A leaflet distributed by the National Committee for the Uprising last week said the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) designated Sunday "Flag Day"

and called on Palestinians to display the nationalist symbol banning violent protests in the village.

The army said Ardah was fatally shot after shots were fired at troops.

Soldiers were searching for a second Palestinian seen fleeing the scene. It marked only the second time Palestinians used a donkey since the uprising began.

The Palestine Press Service (PPS) reported soldiers shot dead a donkey in Qalqilia with a Palestinian flag tied to its head and an Israeli flag attached to the tail after they were unable to catch it. The agency said soldiers then burned the Palestinian flag.

A leaflet distributed by the National Committee for the Uprising last week said the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) designated Sunday "Flag Day"

the occupied territories.

Arafat had directed that no fire arms be used in the demonstrations, Safieh said.

In Gaza City, troops stormed Shifa Hospital and arrested three Palestinians after protesters inside the compound threw stones, the army said. Hospital officials said one detainee was a 15-year-old boy with a broken right hand who was taken from his bed.

Loudspeakers in nearby Shati refugee camp called for help, and hundreds started marching towards the hospital before they were stopped by soldiers using tear-gas and rubber bullets, witnesses told the AP. The army said it clamped a curfew on Shati.

Shifa doctors staged a sit-in strike to protest the arrests inside the hospital.

Troops surrounded Ramallah

hospital in the West Bank for several hours after protesters standing on the roof threw stones and a firebomb at soldiers, the army said.

Jewish settlers slashed tyres and broke windshields on about 100 Arab-owned cars over the weekend in Bethlehem, nearby Hebron and Arab Jerusalem, Israel radio and settlers said.

## Iraq, Iran keep up strikes

(Continued from page 1)

### TASS reports assault

In Moscow, the TASS news agency said rioting Iranians attacked the Soviet embassy in Tehran Sunday, using stones and incendiary devices in an assault which threatened the lives of Soviet general consulate in Iran.

TASS said Iranian Charge d'Affaires in Moscow, Majid Ghahremani had been summoned to the Soviet Foreign Ministry and was handed a protest which he pledged to convey to Tehran.

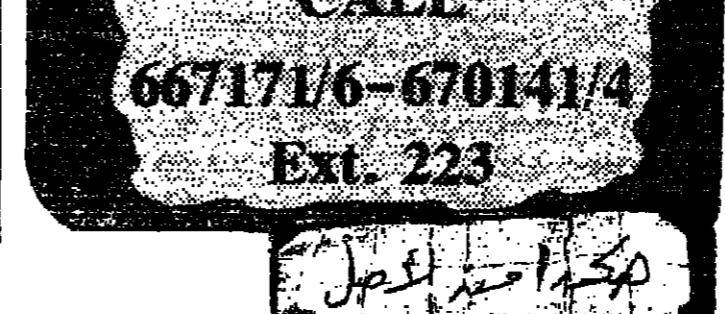
"The situation is causing serious concern among the Soviet leadership," TASS said, citing the protest.

"We consider the events at the wall of the Soviet embassy absolutely inadmissible, all the more so since the Iranian side was earlier informed of our apprehensions and had time to prevent the unlawful actions which took place."

## TO ADVERTISE IN THIS SECTION CALL

667171/6-670141/4

Ext. 223



## CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT

Mecca Street, Yarmouk

Engineers Housing Estate, near Kilo

Supermarket

Mongolian Barbecue for

Lunch Friday only

Tel: 81214

Come and taste our

specialties



A Palestinian woman chains herself to an electric pole at the Al Anazir refugee camp near Ramallah in protest against the arrest of her husband who

was detained after joining three Italian politicians who previously chained themselves to the pole.

## Lynching chills those who aid the Israelis

By Glenn Frankel

**OABATIYAH, Israeli-Occupied West Bank**

— Every time Palestinian demonstrators passed Mohammad Ayed's house on the main road through this town in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, they would chant, "Long Live Palestine, death to the traitor!" Sometimes Ayed could be seen peering uneasily through an upstairs window.

Then one day in late February something snapped. During a protest march here, youths threw rocks at the house and Ayed responded with a burst of machine-gun fire. A four-year-old boy was killed, a dozen more people were wounded, and the incensed crowd laid siege to the house.

When it was over, Mohammad Ayed was dead, his body hanging below a Palestinian flag on an electric pole at the town's central bus station. He was the first alleged collaborator to die since the Palestinian *intifada*, or uprising, began three months ago and the first ever to be lynched.

His killing has sent a wave of fear through Palestinians who cooperate with Israel in its military occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and a wave of anger and remorse through the Israeli authorities who failed to save his life.

Some believe that the death of Ayed may signal a new phase in which the uprising turns inward and Palestinians begin killing each other. But it may also be a sign of something equally important: The end of the old arrangements through which Israel has ruled the territories with the passive consent, and sometimes even active involvement, of its Arab subjects.

Residents say everyone in Qabatiyah knew Ayed was an informer under the protection of two operatives of the Shin Bet, the Israeli internal security service, who were assigned to oversee police matters in the town.

He and other known collaborators have long been part of the political and social landscape of the West Bank, as are the well-connected Arab intermediaries who, for a fee, arrange building, travel and business permits for residents, and the local Arab police or the town officials who led Shin Bet men after midnight to the houses of those targeted for arrest.

Now there is fear that the old lines between "acceptable" collaboration and betrayal are blurring and that Palestinians holding civilian jobs in the occupation administration and even moderates seeking political dialogue with Israel or the United States may find themselves lumped together with the Mohammad Ayeds.

"It's all right to work for the civil administration, to be a teacher in government school, even to be a policeman," said Danny Rubenstein, an Israeli journalist who has long covered the West Bank. "You can't give information about people and you can't sell land to Israelis. But now we might be heading into a new phase where the norms do not apply anymore."

Qabatiyah remains under military closure. Soldiers stand at each road into town, barring residents from leaving and visitors from en-

tering. The army has arrested more than 100 residents and demolished the houses of two alleged ringleaders of the lynching, although there were no charges filed and no trial.

"Those responsible will be found and punished with full severity," Major General Amram Mizrahi, the military commander of the West Bank, said in an interview with Israeli radio.

The smaller group that did the deed and incited the hundreds to

**"For many Palestinians, life under occupation seems a constant series of bottlenecks. At each bottleneck stands a Shin Bet agent who has the power to say yes or no. Anyone who wants to buy land, or build an addition to his house, or start a business or travel abroad must have a permit or document. Often the price, residents say, is willingness to give information."**

go out on the streets and to go wild, we'll deal with them," General Mizrahi said, "and the town of Qabatiyah itself will be punished."

A few residents have slipped through the cordon, hiking over the rocky foothills that surround Qabatiyah. Over the weekend, a half dozen of them discussed Ayed and his grisly death. Much of what they had to say could not be independently confirmed. The army is disclosing few details about the incident and barring journalists from the area.

Like many alleged collaborators, the residents said, Ayed was recruited by the Shin Bet while imprisoned in the late 1960s for security offense.

For many Palestinians life under occupation seems constant series of bottlenecks. At each bottleneck stands a Shin Bet agent who has the power to say yes or no. Anyone who wants to buy land, or build an addition to his house, or start a business or travel abroad must have a permit or document. Often the price, residents say, is willingness to give information.

An army spokesman said the siege of Ayed's house and his killing took two hours, not five, as some witnesses said, and that the army had not had enough time to save his life.

But the army quickly retaliated. Just after midnight the next morning, residents say, dozens of soldiers poured into Qabatiyah, rounding up young men and nightsticks. More than 16,000 work as school teachers, clerks and other office help in the military administration that runs the territories. All of these are deemed acceptable so long as they honour periodic strike calls.

Arab policemen are in another category. They are seen as fighting common crime and most take pains not to get involved in security matters. They are seldom on the scene when protests break out. Nonetheless the pressure on them to resign has greatly increased in recent weeks.

Local mayors and city councilmen have also come under in-

creased pressure. Quds, a pro-Palestinian radio station said to operate from Damascus, has broadcast the names of more than 100 policemen, city officials and other Arab employees, demanding they resign or risk attack. A handful have complied.

Informers are looked upon as a separate breed. In many places they are tolerated because they are under Israeli protection. But they are loathed.

Residents of Qabatiyah say Ayed boasted of his Shin Bet connections and liked to show off his Uzi submachine gun, a weapon that he and a handful of other collaborators were allowed to carry for self-protection.

About six months ago, someone tried to kill Ayed by placing a bomb in his car after midnight, residents say. But he chased them off with machine-gun fire. The next morning, those allegedly responsible were arrested.

Demonstrators had marched past Ayed's house for several days last week, protesting the impending visit to Israel of the U.S. secretary of state, George P. Shultz. Residents could not say exactly why the march of Feb. 24 ended in violence. Army officials say they believe the attack was premeditated retaliation by the families of some of those Ayed informed upon.

Whatever its origins, the attack turned into a full-scale siege after Ayed shot and killed the four-year-old boy. "He killed first," said one witness. "After that, the atmosphere was that this man must die."

The crowd knew that Mohammad Ayed was not the only collaborator in Qabatiyah. Soon after his death, residents say, someone broadcast a call from the local mosque for the others to turn in their weapons there. Four men did and are said to have taken an oath on the Koran never to work for Israel again.

Residents say someone from the mosque turned in the weapons to the military governor's headquarters in Jenin. The army refused to comment on this, but military sources said that incidents of collaborators turning in their weapons and pledging not to aid the Israelis had taken place recently in at least two West Bank towns.

An army spokesman said the siege of Ayed's house and his killing took two hours, not five, as some witnesses said, and that the army had not had enough time to save his life.

But the army quickly retaliated. Just after midnight the next morning, residents say, dozens of soldiers poured into Qabatiyah, rounding up young men and nightsticks. More than 16,000 work as school teachers, clerks and other office help in the military administration that runs the territories. All of these are deemed acceptable so long as they honour periodic strike calls.

The most chilling message from the death of Ayed, said Rubenstein, is that Israel may no longer be able to protect its vast network of informers and collaborators. He said that Ayed's death is one more indication that in places like Qabatiyah, Israel is no longer in control — Washington Post.

## Counselling the counsellor

*What does a counsellor who is computer-illiterate and afraid of the man with the calculators do when promoted to a manager's job for which he is ill-prepared? He goes to a counselling centre for management, says Michael Skapinker.*

LONDON — Shortly after his promotion to project leader of the Killingworth Family Centre, Noel O'Reilly knew he was in trouble. His staff was on the point of mutiny; he had little idea what his duties were; and details of his £80,000 (\$141,000) annual budget were a mystery to him.

O'Reilly, 37, was appointed two years ago to run the centre, on the outskirts of Newcastle, in north-eastern England. He had already spent three years there as a social worker. The centre, which provides help and counselling to local families and their children, is a joint project between the children's charity Dr. Barnardo's and North Tyneside Council.

"There's a feeling that if you're a reasonably good social worker you'll be a reasonably good manager," he says. "But as a manager, I didn't know what was expected of me."

What he needed, O'Reilly decided, was some management training. He asked Dr. Barnardo's if it knew of any courses. The organisation made some suggestions, none of which he regarded as suitable. Finally, after phoning around, he came across the Northern Regional Management Centre, based in Washington, Tyne and Wear.

The centre, set up in 1980 under the auspices of Newcastle, Sunderland and Teesside polytechnics, aims to provide courses tailored to meet the needs of individual junior and middle managers. Managers who follow the centre's 12-month certificate in management studies carry on working while doing so, which was what O'Reilly needed.

Informers are looked upon as a separate breed. In many places they are tolerated because they are under Israeli protection. But they are loathed.

Residents of Qabatiyah say Ayed boasted of his Shin Bet connections and liked to show off his Uzi submachine gun, a weapon that he and a handful of other collaborators were allowed to carry for self-protection.

About six months ago, someone tried to kill Ayed by placing a bomb in his car after midnight, residents say. But he chased them off with machine-gun fire. The next morning, those allegedly responsible were arrested.

Matters improved when he made contact with George Boak,

his tutor and the centre's programme manager.

O'Reilly began by working his way through a series of workbooks in basic management skills, such as how to manage people and how to manage money. Managers taking the centre's course work in their own time, submitting a series of assignments to their tutor.

For O'Reilly, the benefits were immediate. One of his main problems had been the list of families waiting to use the centre. "I realised from the workbook that the reason we had a waiting list was that I wasn't managing it.

"I was not looking at the situation and saying, 'This family's problems are resolved, they should now make space for someone else.' So in a sense I was creating my own problem."

O'Reilly began holding regular planning and monitoring which eventually eliminated his waiting list.

But it was the workbook on managing money which was "the high point of the course." Previously, when he had asked his superiors for more money he had been intimidated by "the men with the calculators."

"They would say 'Why do you want the money' and I would say 'I just feel I need it.' As a result of the course, 'I got to grips with my fears about money.'

Other assignments which O'Reilly did as part of his course included an attempt to describe the various components of his own job and an examination of staff turnover throughout the year.

All of the assignments done on the course are aimed at helping managers develop their own skills and reach a clearer understanding of the needs of their organisations.

The centre also requires its students to agree to a set of "management learning contracts" drawn up between the centre, the course tutor and the manager's employer.

The contracts set out some additional learning goals for the manager. Depending on what they and their organisation require, managers could, for example, undertake to set up a planning system for annual budgets,

improve their public speaking or develop their interviewing skills.

Ideally, the employer should take an active part in helping to decide what goes into the contracts. O'Reilly's superior at Dr. Barnardo's had agreed to give him half a day off work every week to devote to the course, but was not particularly helpful when it came to drawing up his learning contracts.

In one of O'Reilly's contracts he undertook to improve his budgetary control skills. In another, he agreed to come up with ways to manage his time more efficiently.

— Financial Times feature.

## Randa Habib's corner

### The magnificent ones

CHARITABLE activities are numerous and the involvement of people at various levels and ages is satisfactory.

Groups of ladies, schools, well-established charitable organisations, are all trying to help the needy in our country. We can't but feel proud and moved to see the little ones also getting involved. They call themselves the "Little Hands" but as little as their hands may be they are doing big things. Adults only attend their activities. The organisers are children and they only seek help from other children. And because they are children, their shows are of a different taste. It is not only that they are able to raise money in order to buy medical equipments for this or that centre, no, they have realised that other children are less fortunate and that by using their "Little Hands" they can help change the world.

This week they sang and danced with another child Reem Bandali, who happens to be a star. They sang and they danced for the benefit and entertainment of other less-fortunate children.

I am proud that we have in Jordan such an enlightened generation. It is because of them that we are able to dream of a better tomorrow for all of us in our beloved country.

## Swedish live-in lovers considered married by law

By Eva Ahlberg  
Reuter

STOCKHOLM — A new Swedish law has given live-in lovers, whether heterosexual or homosexual, identical rights to couples married by church or state.

It is the latest move by the Swedish state, champion of liberal lifestyles and minority social groups, to recognise the legitimacy of relationships outside wedlock.

The "cohabitantes law," which took effect on January 1, gives partners in such relationships equal rights over all property acquired for joint use — no matter who paid for it.

The government is pressing the message home in a nationwide poster campaign, featuring broken hearts and warning couples to "read the law before your love ends."

"I don't know of any other country that has this kind of legislation," said Hans Jacobson, an expert on family law with the justice ministry.

"It is a good law," said Egon, 35, a cohabitee of six years. "My partner and I have built something just as important as a married couple and should have the same rights and obligations if our relationship comes to an end."

Like many other Swedish couples, Jenny and Gun chose not to marry partly because living together would provide an easier way out and partly because of deep-rooted principles.

Jenny, 28, belongs to another group — the traditionalists who tend eventually to get married but live together in the interim.

"The new law won't change too much for my boyfriend and I but if we were not planning a wedding, we would obviously have to write a cohabitee agreement on what belongs to whom and who bought what," she said.

Jenny has been living with Sverker in his inner city flat for a year. They recently acquired a new home together with the proceeds from the sale of his apartment.

"I am going to pay him half of what the first apartment cost," Jenny said, adding that this had

already been agreed prior to the new law.

Were she not to pay and the relationship to end, Swedish law would now entitle her to half the apartment anyway — as it was acquired for the use of both parties.

The partition rules could, however, be overridden by a written agreement. That way, the couple could just split up, take their things and go their separate ways.

Norway, Denmark to follow

Homosexuals splitting up a marriage-like relationship also have to follow the rules governing the division of property.

"This has made homosexuals more equal to heterosexuals," said justice ministry official Severin Blomstrand, adding that similar legislation was under consideration in Norway and Denmark.

But he said homosexuals were still not completely happy. "They still feel discriminated against because they were denied the right to marry and adopt children."

Although live-in lovers are widely regarded as a family unit in Sweden, marriage is still the most common form of cohabitation. But Swedish couples tend to take their vows later in life and often only when they have children.

Newspaper photographs often show couples getting married in church and having their children christened at the same time.

**AMMAN!**

## Twice weekly as of May

Royal Jordanian is pleased to announce the opening of twice weekly service to Miami from Amman as of May 3, 1988.  
Serving the U.S. 14 times weekly with all widebody, 3 class flights, Miami is our fourth American gateway along with New York, Chicago and Los Angeles.

**ROYAL JORDANIAN**  
Setting new standards

AMMAN • ABU DHABI • AMSTERDAM • AQABA • ATHENS • BAGHDAD • BAHRAIN • BANGKOK • BEIRUT • BELGRADE • BRUSSELS • BUCHAREST • CAIRO • CASABLANCA • CHICAGO • COPENHAGEN • DAMASCUS • DHARAHAN • DOHA • DUBAI • FRANKFURT • GENEVA • ISTANBUL • JEDDAH • KARACHI • KUALA LUMPUR • KUWAIT • LAJNAKA • LONDON • LOS ANGELES • MADRID • MIAMI • MOSCOW • MUSCAT • NEW YORK • PARIS • ROME • SANAA • SINGAPORE • TIRPOLI • TUNIS • VIENNA

## Napoli suffers 2nd defeat in one week

ROME (R) — Italian champions Napoli suffered their second home defeat in a week when they lost 2-1 to a resurgent Roma Sunday but closest rivals AC Milan failed to make the most of the League upset, being held 0-0 at home by Verona.

Napoli, beaten 3-2 by Torino in the mid-week quarter-finals of the Italian Cup, failed to find their usual well-oiled rhythm despite the exhortations of Argentine World Cup captain Diego Maradona. Napoli's defeat reduced their lead over AC Milan to four points while Roma closed up in third

place with 29 points, two adrift of Milan, Sampdoria, who beat Pesca 2-1, were fourth with 26. Giuseppe Giannini silenced the 75,000 Napoli fans with a calmly-executed goal in the 21st minute after the home defence had been caught napping by a break through the midfield by Roma's West German striker Rudi

Voeller. Maradona, top League scorer this season with 12 goals, had a good match but was repeatedly thwarted by Roma goalkeeper Franco Tancredi who had few problems in stopping his favourite set-piece free-kicks from the edge of the area.

Napoli fought back hard after the interval and narrowly missed scoring on several occasions but their vulnerability in defence showed in the 71st minute when Maradona's 31-year-old marker Emilio Odi broke through to put Roma 2-0 ahead.

Brazilian striker Careca scored for Napoli 10 minutes later with a close-range shot but Roma held on in a tense finish.

The match had earlier been marred by the arrest of 11 fans following violent skirmishes outside Naples railway station. Police said six officers were injured when stones and at least two home-made petrol bombs were thrown in the street.

A further 260 Roma fans were banned from the match and sent home on a special train.

Milan marked the return of Dutch European footballer-of-the-year Ruud Gullit after a one-match suspension with a disappointing home performance that failed to take advantage of their clear superiority.

Sampdoria suffered an early setback against Pescara but had levelled by halftime through Brazilian Cerezo and clinched both points in the 72nd minute with Fausto Parri's goal.

### PSV wins 5-0

In the Netherlands Eric Viscaal slammed home four goals Sunday as Dutch First Division leaders PSV Eindhoven continued their dominance with a 5-0 home win over VVV Venlo.

There were no signs that PSV were fatigued by their tough European Cup game against Bordeaux last Wednesday.

### Tubbs plans to knock out Tyson

TOKYO (AP) — Tony Tubbs arrived in Tokyo Sunday in advance of his challenge undisputed world heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson, and predicted that he would knock out Tyson "between the eighth and 10th rounds" in their March 21 title match.

"But good players are keenly fought over," he added.

Age is not a problem, with the youngest player around 20 and the oldest, backed up by a mandatory medical certificate proving his fitness to take part, still battling away at 51.

There is also an injection of burly non-Italian defensive talent through the Swiss guard, the Pope's faithful bodyguard.

However, due to duties beyond the call of soccer, the Swiss guard have been unable to field a team in 1988 because they cannot muster enough off-duty players at any one time. Instead, the leading lights will play occasionally for other sides.

The papal summer residence of Castelgandolfo south-east of Rome has fielded a side in past years but will not enter the competition in 1988.

"We don't have a Maradona here at the moment," the Holy See's league supremo Sergio Valci told Reuters in an interview.

"But we do have a couple of Brazilians and some Africans," he added, explaining that teams were allowed to field two students from pontifical academies in Rome. The academics are classified as Vatican territory.

There is also an injection of burly non-Italian defensive talent through the Swiss guard, the Pope's faithful bodyguard.

Valci, raising his eyes heavenwards at the suggestion of a transfer market, said friendship and a chance to be in the best team played the major role in enticing a "star" player.

"But good players are keenly fought over," he added.

Age is not a problem, with the youngest player around 20 and the oldest, backed up by a mandatory medical certificate proving his fitness to take part, still battling away at 51.

There is also an injection of burly non-Italian defensive talent through the Swiss guard, the Pope's faithful bodyguard.

However, due to duties beyond the call of soccer, the Swiss guard have been unable to field a team in 1988 because they cannot muster enough off-duty players at any one time. Instead, the leading lights will play occasionally for other sides.

The papal summer residence of Castelgandolfo south-east of Rome has fielded a side in past years but will not enter the competition in 1988.

"We don't have a Maradona here at the moment," the Holy See's league supremo Sergio Valci told Reuters in an interview.

"But we do have a couple of Brazilians and some Africans," he added, explaining that teams were allowed to field two students from pontifical academies in Rome. The academics are classified as Vatican territory.

There is also an injection of burly non-Italian defensive talent through the Swiss guard, the Pope's faithful bodyguard.

Valci, raising his eyes heavenwards at the suggestion of a transfer market, said friendship and a chance to be in the best team played the major role in enticing a "star" player.

"But good players are keenly fought over," he added.

Age is not a problem, with the youngest player around 20 and the oldest, backed up by a mandatory medical certificate proving his fitness to take part, still battling away at 51.

There is also an injection of burly non-Italian defensive talent through the Swiss guard, the Pope's faithful bodyguard.

However, due to duties beyond the call of soccer, the Swiss guard have been unable to field a team in 1988 because they cannot muster enough off-duty players at any one time. Instead, the leading lights will play occasionally for other sides.

The papal summer residence of Castelgandolfo south-east of Rome has fielded a side in past years but will not enter the competition in 1988.

"We don't have a Maradona here at the moment," the Holy See's league supremo Sergio Valci told Reuters in an interview.

"But we do have a couple of Brazilians and some Africans," he added, explaining that teams were allowed to field two students from pontifical academies in Rome. The academics are classified as Vatican territory.

There is also an injection of burly non-Italian defensive talent through the Swiss guard, the Pope's faithful bodyguard.

Valci, raising his eyes heavenwards at the suggestion of a transfer market, said friendship and a chance to be in the best team played the major role in enticing a "star" player.

"But good players are keenly fought over," he added.

Age is not a problem, with the youngest player around 20 and the oldest, backed up by a mandatory medical certificate proving his fitness to take part, still battling away at 51.

There is also an injection of burly non-Italian defensive talent through the Swiss guard, the Pope's faithful bodyguard.

Valci, raising his eyes heavenwards at the suggestion of a transfer market, said friendship and a chance to be in the best team played the major role in enticing a "star" player.

"But good players are keenly fought over," he added.

Age is not a problem, with the youngest player around 20 and the oldest, backed up by a mandatory medical certificate proving his fitness to take part, still battling away at 51.

There is also an injection of burly non-Italian defensive talent through the Swiss guard, the Pope's faithful bodyguard.

Valci, raising his eyes heavenwards at the suggestion of a transfer market, said friendship and a chance to be in the best team played the major role in enticing a "star" player.

"But good players are keenly fought over," he added.

Age is not a problem, with the youngest player around 20 and the oldest, backed up by a mandatory medical certificate proving his fitness to take part, still battling away at 51.

There is also an injection of burly non-Italian defensive talent through the Swiss guard, the Pope's faithful bodyguard.

Valci, raising his eyes heavenwards at the suggestion of a transfer market, said friendship and a chance to be in the best team played the major role in enticing a "star" player.

"But good players are keenly fought over," he added.

Age is not a problem, with the youngest player around 20 and the oldest, backed up by a mandatory medical certificate proving his fitness to take part, still battling away at 51.

There is also an injection of burly non-Italian defensive talent through the Swiss guard, the Pope's faithful bodyguard.

Valci, raising his eyes heavenwards at the suggestion of a transfer market, said friendship and a chance to be in the best team played the major role in enticing a "star" player.

"But good players are keenly fought over," he added.

Age is not a problem, with the youngest player around 20 and the oldest, backed up by a mandatory medical certificate proving his fitness to take part, still battling away at 51.

There is also an injection of burly non-Italian defensive talent through the Swiss guard, the Pope's faithful bodyguard.

Valci, raising his eyes heavenwards at the suggestion of a transfer market, said friendship and a chance to be in the best team played the major role in enticing a "star" player.

"But good players are keenly fought over," he added.

Age is not a problem, with the youngest player around 20 and the oldest, backed up by a mandatory medical certificate proving his fitness to take part, still battling away at 51.

There is also an injection of burly non-Italian defensive talent through the Swiss guard, the Pope's faithful bodyguard.

Valci, raising his eyes heavenwards at the suggestion of a transfer market, said friendship and a chance to be in the best team played the major role in enticing a "star" player.

"But good players are keenly fought over," he added.

Age is not a problem, with the youngest player around 20 and the oldest, backed up by a mandatory medical certificate proving his fitness to take part, still battling away at 51.

There is also an injection of burly non-Italian defensive talent through the Swiss guard, the Pope's faithful bodyguard.

Valci, raising his eyes heavenwards at the suggestion of a transfer market, said friendship and a chance to be in the best team played the major role in enticing a "star" player.

"But good players are keenly fought over," he added.

Age is not a problem, with the youngest player around 20 and the oldest, backed up by a mandatory medical certificate proving his fitness to take part, still battling away at 51.

There is also an injection of burly non-Italian defensive talent through the Swiss guard, the Pope's faithful bodyguard.

Valci, raising his eyes heavenwards at the suggestion of a transfer market, said friendship and a chance to be in the best team played the major role in enticing a "star" player.

"But good players are keenly fought over," he added.

Age is not a problem, with the youngest player around 20 and the oldest, backed up by a mandatory medical certificate proving his fitness to take part, still battling away at 51.

There is also an injection of burly non-Italian defensive talent through the Swiss guard, the Pope's faithful bodyguard.

Valci, raising his eyes heavenwards at the suggestion of a transfer market, said friendship and a chance to be in the best team played the major role in enticing a "star" player.

"But good players are keenly fought over," he added.

Age is not a problem, with the youngest player around 20 and the oldest, backed up by a mandatory medical certificate proving his fitness to take part, still battling away at 51.

There is also an injection of burly non-Italian defensive talent through the Swiss guard, the Pope's faithful bodyguard.

Valci, raising his eyes heavenwards at the suggestion of a transfer market, said friendship and a chance to be in the best team played the major role in enticing a "star" player.

"But good players are keenly fought over," he added.

Age is not a problem, with the youngest player around 20 and the oldest, backed up by a mandatory medical certificate proving his fitness to take part, still battling away at 51.

There is also an injection of burly non-Italian defensive talent through the Swiss guard, the Pope's faithful bodyguard.

Valci, raising his eyes heavenwards at the suggestion of a transfer market, said friendship and a chance to be in the best team played the major role in enticing a "star" player.

"But good players are keenly fought over," he added.

Age is not a problem, with the youngest player around 20 and the oldest, backed up by a mandatory medical certificate proving his fitness to take part, still battling away at 51.

There is also an injection of burly non-Italian defensive talent through the Swiss guard, the Pope's faithful bodyguard.

Valci, raising his eyes heavenwards at the suggestion of a transfer market, said friendship and a chance to be in the best team played the major role in enticing a "star" player.

"But good players are keenly fought over," he added.

Age is not a problem, with the youngest player around 20 and the oldest, backed up by a mandatory medical certificate proving his fitness to take part, still battling away at 51.

There is also an injection of burly non-Italian defensive talent through the Swiss guard, the Pope's faithful bodyguard.

Valci, raising his eyes heavenwards at the suggestion of a transfer market, said friendship and a chance to be in the best team played the major role in enticing a "star" player.

"But good players are keenly fought over," he added.

Age is not a problem, with the youngest player around 20 and the oldest, backed up by a mandatory medical certificate proving his fitness to take part, still battling away at 51.

There is also an injection of burly non-Italian defensive talent through the Swiss guard, the Pope's faithful bodyguard.

Valci, raising his eyes heavenwards at the suggestion of a transfer market, said friendship and a chance to be in the best team played the major role in enticing a "star" player.

"But good players are keenly fought over," he added.

Age is not a problem, with the youngest player around 20 and the oldest, backed up by a mandatory medical certificate proving his fitness to take part, still battling away at 51.

There is also an injection of burly non-Italian defensive talent through the Swiss guard, the Pope's faithful bodyguard.

Valci, raising his eyes heavenwards at the suggestion of a transfer market, said friendship and a chance to be in the best team played the major role in enticing a "star" player.

"But good players are keenly fought over," he added.

Age is not a problem, with the youngest player around 20 and the oldest, backed up by a mandatory medical certificate proving his fitness to take part, still battling away at 51.

There is also an injection of burly non-Italian defensive talent through the Swiss guard, the Pope's faithful bodyguard.

Valci, raising his eyes heavenwards at the suggestion of a transfer market, said friendship and a chance to be in the best team played the major role in enticing a "star" player.

"But good players are keenly fought over," he added.

Age is not a problem, with the youngest player around 20 and the oldest, backed up by a mandatory medical certificate proving his fitness to take part, still battling away at 51.

There is also an injection of burly non-Italian defensive talent through the Swiss guard, the Pope's faithful bodyguard.

Valci, raising his eyes heavenwards at the suggestion of a transfer market, said friendship and a chance to be in the best team played the major role in enticing a "star" player.

"But good players are keenly fought over," he added.

Age is not a problem, with the youngest player around 20 and the oldest, backed up by a mandatory medical certificate proving his fitness to take part, still battling away at 51.

There is also an injection of burly non-Italian defensive talent through the Swiss guard, the Pope's faithful bodyguard.

Valci, raising his eyes heavenwards at the suggestion of a transfer market, said friendship and a chance to be in the best team played the major role in enticing a "star" player.

"But good players are keenly fought over," he added.

Age is not a problem, with the youngest player around 20 and the oldest, backed up by a mandatory medical certificate proving his fitness to take part, still battling away at 51.

There is also an injection of burly non-Italian defensive talent through the Swiss guard, the Pope's faithful bodyguard.

## Arab Bank Group increases lending and profits in 1987

By Rami G. Khouri  
Special to the Jordan Times

The Arab Bank Group adopted a slightly more aggressive marketing strategy last year, and increased lending by twenty per cent, to \$3.517 billion. Deposits increased from \$1.8 billion to \$12.6 billion.

The bank will distribute \$24.5 million in cash dividends, what has become its usual rate of 35 per cent of par share value (though its shares are trading on the Amman stock exchange at over twelve times their par value).

Total shareholders' equity was increased at the end of the year to \$78.3 million, representing a cumulative equity increase of 57.7 per cent during the past five years.

The Arab Bank Group's consistent profitability, during the past five years of turbulence in global and Middle Eastern markets, reflects four major factors:

Its substantial inner reserves, its cautious approach to new banking markets and services, a diversified international network of branches, affiliates, subsidiaries and sister institutions built up throughout the world during the past 55 years, and the maintenance of a very high liquidity ratio, which reached 70 per cent last year.

The Arab Bank Group comprises a total of 73 branches, offices and offshore units

throughout the Arab World, Europe, the USA and the Far East.

The Arab Bank Group includes the Arab Bank Limited, and its affiliates and subsidiaries in Switzerland, London, Australia, Austria, Tunis, Morocco, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Nigeria and West Germany.

The Arab Bank Limited itself registered a small rise in its net profit, from JD 23.5 million to JD 23.9 million, largely due to a drop in net interest income. Its balance sheet total increased from JD 3.772 billion to JD 3.897 billion during the year. Total income rose from JD 66.84 million to JD 68.69 million, while total expenses increased from JD 43.32 million to JD 44.78 million.

### UDD awards JD 1.6 million contract for Um Nuwwara

AMMAN (Petra) — A local construction firm has won a JD 1.6 million contract from the Urban Development Department (UDD) to build the second phase of the Um Nuwwara housing estate project within the Greater Amman Municipality.

The contract, signed here Sunday by Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Minister Yousef Hamdan Al Jaber and the local company's general manager, stipulates that the project should be implemented in four stages on a piece of land divided into 830 plots, of which 211 will be used for the housing units and the rest will be left to be distributed to other beneficiaries who would like to set up their own homes.

UDD Director General Hisham Al Zagha said that work on the project will begin May 1 and will take 670 days to be completed.

Initially, no less than 6,000 citizens will benefit from this project, but this could rise to 12,000, once vertical and horizontal expansion was carried out at later stages, Zagha noted.

He said that the size of the plots of land ranges between 112 and 320 square metres and that the project will be supplied with all basic services such as asphalted roads, car parks, water and electricity networks, telephone services and shopping centres.

In addition two schools, one for girls and the other for boys, as well as centres for providing health and social services, an emergency aid centre and a vocational centre for women are included in the project.

Zagha, who was speaking after the signing ceremony, said that the contract stipulates that the company use locally produced building materials in a bid to encourage local production.

Locally produced silicate bricks will be used in the construction of 50 units as a trial design to test the marketability of the new style.

If beneficiaries show readiness to silicate brick houses, future projects will be set up along the same lines, Zagha noted.

He said that UDD had earlier used silicate brick in the construction of schools, social centres and other public facilities in its earlier projects.

### AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan Lime and Silicate Brick Industries figured prominently Sunday as it topped the list of trading with 403,000 shares valued at JD 105,700 spread over 135 contracts, all figures being the highest of all 45 companies whose shares were traded. 56,934 shares of Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipment were traded but the volume stood only at JD 11,027.

In terms of the number of shares, Aladdin Industries and Jordan Spinning and Weaving ranked third and fourth for 28,600 shares and 22,325 shares respectively.

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, MARCH 7, 1988

### YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carto Fighter Institute

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** You will be unusually adept at communicating your ideas and intentions to others early in the day, so take advantage of this tendency. Investigate the details of any new plans very carefully.

**ARIES** (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19): If you've been having a long-standing disagreement with your mate, this is a good time to clear it up and increase the happiness at home.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 20 to May 20): Find a better system for handling your daily duties. This will help you save time and effort, but will increase your productivity.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 21): Schedule some appointments for social activities later in the week, and plan your work for tomorrow. Pay more attention to your health.

**MOON CHILDREN** (June 22 to Jul. 21): Before you go out this morning, make sure your house is in perfect condition, as you may want to entertain there tonight.

**LEO** (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21): This is a good day to catch up on your neglected correspondence and any vital business matters. Get together with good friends tonight.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22): Now is a good time to take care of any financial problems and get good results. If you have to make some home repairs, get estimates first.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Let your talents shine through, and you can be much more successful in the future. Reserve the evening for your mate and a few good friends.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Find out what your friends want of you, and you can please them greatly this evening. State your personal goals clearly.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20): If you need some advice on how to proceed with a financial venture, accept advice only from a qualified expert and act quickly.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19): A trusted superior can give you some great help in moving quickly toward your career goals. Drive carefully this evening.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20): You can make some valuable new contacts today, so be charming and put your best foot forward. Try to be more cooperative with co-workers.

**The Daily Commuter Puzzle**



### Mutt'n' Jeff



### Andy Capp



## Vatican projects record deficit in '88 budget

VATICAN CITY (Agencies) — The Vatican Saturday projected a 1988 budget deficit of \$61.8 million, a figure \$5.1 million higher than its record shortfall.

However, the predicted deficit is just \$127,200 higher at current exchange rates than the one predicted for last year. The Vatican said the final figures for 1987 will be made public next fall.

The budget released by Cardinal Giuseppe Capri, president of the Prefect of Economic Affairs for the Holy See, forecasted 1988 revenues of \$60.1 million and spending of \$121.9 million.

The Vatican has operated at a loss every year since 1979 when it first made its financial details public. That year it announced a deficit of about \$20 million.

The budget covers expenses for the Curia, or the church's central administration, Vatican Radio, diplomatic missions and the Vatican newspaper, l'Osservatore Romano.

It does not include the Vatican Bank, or the costs of Pope John Paul II's travels, which the Vatican says are paid for by local churches.

The Vatican Thursday again repeated a statement on 1986 that the record deficit of \$56.7 million and for the first time gave the breakdown for expenses and income.

Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro said it was released at the request of Pope John Paul II "to show clearly both the needs of the Holy See and the way it has spent its money."

Navarro said the Vatican hopes "the openness will help the faithful all over the world share the responsibility for the needs of the Holy See."

The 12-member Council of

Cardinals for the study of the organisation and economic problems of the Holy See approved the proposed budget during its meeting at the Vatican that began Thursday and ended Saturday.

The council said the deficit will be covered by contributions from "Peter's pence," the annual offering from Roman Catholics to the Pope.

It noted that worldwide contributions to that fund had increased from just over \$32 million in 1986 to \$50.3 million last year.

Salaries and pensions account for the single largest expense on the 1988 budget, or 53.8 percent of total spending. The council projected the Vatican will spend \$65.6 million on salaries for 2,357 workers and pensions for 897 retired people.

Budget to be audited  
Taking a major step towards

opening its financial affairs to public scrutiny, the Vatican announced that its budget would be audited in the future.

Vatican financial officials had agreed to an audited budget following suggestions by several Roman Catholic bishops' conferences, the statement said without elaborating.

An informed Vatican source said the auditing would probably be an external one by a specialized accounting firm.

The statement did not say when auditing would begin.

The two recent moves followed years of lobbying by some cardinals, notably Cardinal John Krol of Philadelphia, to get the Vatican to give a regular public account of its finances.

Krol has often urged the Vatican to agree to auditing, the Holy See — whose budget is smaller than those of some U.S. dioceses — had nothing to hide.

## Oman reports promising new oil find

MUSCAT (AP) — Oman has reported a promising new oil find in the southern parts of the sultanate, but Petroleum and Minerals Minister Saeed Al Shanfari said Sunday that the find will not be put on stream because of the country's policy of restraining oil production.

Prince Salman, governor of Riyadh, signed contracts to reconstruct the government palace, the central mosque and old city walls and gates, and to make other major renovations, the Saudi Press Agency said.

The agency quoted Salman as saying the 3½-year project involved constructing new buildings in traditional Nejdi style on the site of the originals, which will be torn down.

Riyadh's old centre, a dusty quarter of narrow alleyways and beige, crenellated mudbrick houses, lies south of the modern business district.

The rebuilt, 141 million riyal (\$40 million) central mosque will hold 13,500 worshippers.

Salman said a reconstructed government palace would continue its role as the king's headquarters for official functions and feasts.

The old palace had been the residence of King Abdul Aziz, the founder of the modern Saudi state. His sons kings Saud, Faisal, Khalid and Fahd, continued to use it to receive guests.

The 194 million riyal (\$50 million) palace will contain the king's office and reception and banquet halls.

New public facilities, roads, and squares will be built with fountains, trees and canopies for pedestrians, Salman said.

Salman said the buildings would preserve the region's architecture in a refined way. Two bridges would connect the palace with the mosque as in the past.

Hungary has been a pace-setter among East European nations in

endeavoring to support OPEC's efforts to stabilize world prices.

Oman, which is not a member of the 13-nation Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), presently produces 536,750 barrels per day, following a five per cent cut on Feb. 1, the third in 17 months.

The sultanate, where oil exports are a mainstay of the economy, seeks to help OPEC bolster and stabilise oil prices at \$18 a barrel.

Oman is to attend a meeting of

non-OPEC oil producing countries in London later this month to study oil market trends, Al Shanfari said.

PDO exploration manager Hans Varenkamp said early tests on its discovery at Thamoud 1 pointed to a 1,000 barrel per day flow rate. Field capacity estimates are likely to rise following tests being carried out four kilometres away on a second promising rig, Thamoud 11.

Varenkamp said "they look encouraging. We are drilling deeper while tests continue."

## Kremlin proposes expanding private role

MOSCOW (AP) — The government Saturday took steps to open the door to greater expanded private enterprise, proposing to encourage all-out competition with state-run businesses and allow contact with foreign companies.

The new draft law, which will need the approval of parliament, the Supreme Soviet, was splashed over four pages of the government newspaper Izvestia.

Although it appears to greatly expand opportunities for private enterprises, called cooperatives, the law appears to do little to cut the red tape that has stifled some prospective entrepreneurs.

Still, it opens the field.

"A cooperative has the right to

engage in any activity except

those which are illegal," the preamble states.

The proposed draft law fine-

tunes previous liberal regulations and adds these features:

— It allows cooperatives to conduct business with foreign companies and to receive hard currency as payment. It specifically mentions the possibility of exporting and importing, previously reserved only for state-run enterprises.

— It allows cooperatives to hire consultants, who must do their work in spare time outside their regular government jobs.

— It allows state-run enter-

prises to become members of

cooperatives.

The law stresses that the independence of cooperatives from the government must be maintained and encourages outright competition with state-run enter-

prises to "foster elevation of the economy to the world-class level."

## Economist urges rethink on stock market

BUDAPEST (R) — A leading architect of Hungary's economic reforms has said his country should rethink traditional communist opposition to stock markets, adding that Karl Marx never intended people to be poor.

Hungary has been a pace-setter among East European nations in

rest of the socialist community should reverse some of their preconceptions."

"Marx did not want us to live in a poor country," he said.

"What we have to do is find the elements of a capital market which can be used to the benefit of the country," he said.

## THE BETTER HALF

By Harris

# ASALA supports Armenian demand, petitions Gorbachev

BEIRUT (Agencies) — An underground Armenian faction based in Lebanon appealed to the Kremlin Sunday to "favourably consider" the demands of Soviet Armenians involved in ethnic violence in the southern Soviet Republic of Azerbaijan.

The plea was made by the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA) in a statement addressed to Soviet Communist Party leader Mikhail Gorbachev. ASALA's type-written Arabic-language statement was delivered by hand to Western news agencies in Beirut.

The leftist (ASALA) declared it will support for and solidarity with Soviet Armenians seeking to recover the Nagorno-Karabakh "from neighbouring Azerbaijan."

"We are confident that the Soviet Communist Party, its Central Committee and its general secretary comrade Gorbachev will take a just and unequivocal decision to return Nagorno-Karabakh to Soviet Armenia, which is an integral part of the USSR," the statement said.

The statement also urged the

it claims more than a million Armenians were killed to snuff out Armenian struggle for independence.

#### Azerbaijani letter

Moscow Radio reported Sunday residents of Azerbaijan had sent a letter to Kremlin officials denouncing the violence in Nagorno-Karabakh.

The letter criticised "attempts to disrupt the friendship of Soviet peoples."

The dispute over demands for changes in regional boundaries underlies ethnic rioting between Azerbaijanis and Armenians in which 33 people have died.

One Azerbaijani newspaper which reached Moscow Sunday said the situation in the two republics was back to normal but that Azerbaijani refugees who fled Armenia when the protests started were aggravating matters by spreading rumours.

Moscow Radio said the letter was sent to the Praesidium of the Supreme Soviet, the country's parliament, and was signed by "a group of people of the Soviet Republic of Azerbaijan."

Soviet Union to "champion the struggle of non-Soviet Armenians for the liberation of Armenian territory annexed by Turkey."

The ethnic unrest began Feb. 13 with street rallies and strikes by Armenians in Nagorno-Karabakh, a so-called autonomous region of Azerbaijan in the Caucasus mountains. Armenians contend the region should be part of the neighbouring Soviet Republic of Armenia because most of its population is Armenian.

ASALA's statement was the first issued by a clandestine Armenian faction involved in attacks against Turkish targets and personnel in the United States, Europe and the Middle East on the ethnic troubles in the Soviet Union.

ASALA, like several other Lebanon-based underground Armenian factions, blames Turkey for a 1915 massacre in which



BLOOD WILL DRAW BLOOD: British police arrest an anti-blood sports demonstrator at the Waterloo Cup Hare Coursing meeting at Altcar, near Liverpool last week. Photo below shows a hare at the mercy of bloodhounds in an incident of the sort that provoked the protest, in which at least 500 people took part and 12 were arrested (The Guardian).



## Tibetans go on rampage in Lhasa

PEKING (Agencies) — Tibetans seeking independence from China attacked a police station in Lhasa Saturday, beating up officers and destroying their vehicles as a major 10-day prayer festival came to a close.

According to Western sources, at least three people were killed.

The official Xinhua news agency made no mention of casualties or arrests in the first anti-Chinese violence reported in the Tibetan capital since October. At least 14 people were killed during the protests Oct. 1 in which protesters destroyed a police station.

The Xinhua account in Chinese, unlike that in English, said the police station attacked Saturday was a small one opened in central Lhasa's Barkhor marketplace to replace the one destroyed in the October protest.

Both the old and the new stations are within metres of the Jokhang Temple, Lhasa's holiest temple built in the seventh century.

Xinhua reported in Peking that

the wishes of local residents and lamas (monks), shouted reactionary slogans and attacked a police station and the office of the Tibetan branch of the Buddhist Association, beating up police and destroying vehicles.

The state-approved Buddhist Association regularly calls on the Tibetan clergy to cooperate with Chinese authorities and criticises the independence movement led by Tibet's exiled religious leader, the Dalai Lama.

The People's Daily carried a brief account of the latest unrest on its back page, saying that the situation was soon brought under control.

Smoke billowed from the square in central Lhasa and a photograph published in Hong Kong newspapers Sunday showed helmeted firemen apparently fighting the blaze.

Xinhua reported in Peking that

"a number of agitators, against

## S. Africa offers Angola deal to Soviets

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South Africa's Defence Minister General Magnus Malan has offered Moscow a direct deal over Angola, state-run Radio South Africa reported Sunday.

The radio quoted Malan as saying that if the Soviet Union was willing to accept a free, neutral and non-aligned government in Angola — as it had proposed for Afghanistan — South Africa would not insist that the government be pro-South African.

However, she referred to the 11-year rule of President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq as a "brutal dictatorship."

The meeting was Junejo's first with opposition parties since he took office and Bhutto's first with the government since Gen. Zia's 1977 coup toppled her father, Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who was later executed.

Malan has always refused to

hold talks with the UNITA rebels, who have waged a hit-and-run war against the government since the country's independence from Portugal in 1975.

The current Angolan government is backed by the Soviet Union and Cuba.

The radio commented: "General Malan's statement has made the future of Angola a South African-Soviet issue."

It quoted Malan as saying Pretoria would be satisfied with a government formed on the basis of a settlement between the pro-Western UNITA rebel movement and the ruling MPLA (People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola) party.

Malan stressed in the statement that South Africa would stand by UNITA, saying that if the rebel group was weakened or destroyed, "the whole of southern Africa would be handed over to military planning by Moscow."

Angola has always refused to

## British exercises at Falklands rile Argentines

By John Leonard  
The Associated Press

Latin American nations have asked Britain to call it off.

On Saturday, Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo said diplomatic action had prompted British officials to delay the manoeuvres.

But an official at the British Defence Ministry in London, speaking on condition of anonymity in keeping with British policy, said Saturday night that the exercises would begin Monday as planned.

An official Argentine communiqué issued Thursday said Buenos Aires plans "vigilance and defensive alert" during the exercises. If necessary, the communiqué said, Argentina "will execute corresponding defence plans."

They insist it is purely defensive, involving no more than 1,000 troops.

But Argentine President Raul Alfonsin has described the exercise as "directly aggravating" to Argentina. Argentines say it is provocative, and other

kilometres from the Falkland Islands.

Diplomatic gestures

Following the Feb. 11 announcement of the planned exercises, Brazil cancelled the visit of a British Foreign Office junior minister, Timothy Eggar.

The Organisation of American States (OAS) voted 25-0 to urge Britain to reconsider the plan, urging negotiations with Argentina instead. The United States and Santa Lucia abstained.

In London, a Defence Ministry spokesman said Thursday: "We are not intending to increase the tension down there. ... There is nothing significant about the timing of it (the exercise). It is not meant in any way to be provocative to Argentina."

"There is no way in which our garrison down there, even the reinforced garrison, can be construed as anything but defensive," the spokesman said.

colonised the Islands in 1833.

Since the war, talks have deadlocked over Britain's refusal to put the island's sovereignty on the agenda. Britain says sovereignty is non-negotiable because the 1,900 Falkland Islanders wish to remain British.

The exercise will fly a "reinforcement in battalion strength" to the Falklands because it did not have access to a suitable runway. When the then-ruling Argentine military junta sent in a force that overwhelmed the tiny British garrison unit, London could do nothing but form a naval task force that took weeks to reach the archipelago.

Britain recaptured the colony in a 74-day war that killed 712 Argentines and 258 British troops.

Argentina calls the islands the Malvinas and claims them as an inheritance from Spanish colonial rule. The Argentines assert that Britain stole and

## Aquino planning Saudi trip



MANILA (R) — Philippine President Corazon Aquino is reportedly planning a mid-year visit to Saudi Arabia to woo support from the Islamic World for her government, which is facing threats of a renewed Muslim separatist war.

The respected Manila Chronicle newspaper quoted the Philippine ambassador to Washington, Emmanuel Pelaez, Sunday as saying Aquino might visit Jeddah after addressing an International Labour Organisation meeting in Geneva in June.

Pelaez was Aquino's chief negotiator in autonomy talks with Muslim separatists until he was named Washington envoy late last year. He has remained her close adviser on Muslim affairs.

President Press Secretary Venerio Benigno said Sunday he could not confirm or deny the report.

The report followed moves by the Moro National Liberation Front to gain membership of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) to strengthen its campaign for a separate Muslim homeland in the southern Philippines.

Relief spokesmen have said Saudi Arabia backed the front's bid for OIC membership, which would give it the status of a virtual government in exile.

Aquino says it is confident the Saudis will reject the rebels' bid when it meets in Amman later this month. But it has also expressed fears that OIC approval

might rekindle a dormant 15-year-old secessionist war that killed more than 50,000 people in the 1970s.

#### Red Army role alleged

In another development, Manila's immigration chief said Japanese Red Army extremists have entered the Philippines and armed Communist rebels to carry out assassination and sabotage.

Immigration Commission Miriam Defensor Santiago said members of the Red Army and Bouryoku-Dan, a Japanese criminal syndicate, entered through Cebu airport posing as tourists or businessmen.

Santiago's disclosure, in a speech to a civic group Friday, was published in the Philippine Starweek newspaper Sunday.

Aquino, in a taped speech broadcast Sunday, said she fully supported a government campaign to arrest and deport foreigners involved in illegal activities.

Aquino made no mention of

the Japanese Red Army. The government last month deported 23 foreigners, aged between 55 and 60, accused of sexually abusing Filipino boys.

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN  
AND OMAR SHARIF  
Associated Press

#### SAVE THE FINESSE

Keeping with modern theory, South's opening bid showed 21-22 points. Simple arithmetic told North his side had adequate values for a small slam but not enough to consider a grand slam, so he headed for his goal via the most direct route.

With four cards to the queen in one major and four to the knave in the other, West decided a lead in either of those suits was too risky. The diamond sequence looked safe enough. As it turned out, however, that solved one of declarer's problems, for it gave declarer four sure tricks in the suit and, therefore, nine fast tricks outside the club suit.

Is there a way to guarantee three club tricks regardless of how the suit is distributed? Yes. Win the opening lead in hand, lead a low club and go up with the king. Now return a club. If East shows out, rise with the ace and lead another club toward the jack. No matter what West does, you must make three tricks.

Suppose that East produces a low club; what now? Must you guess?

Not at all. Simply insert your nine. If West shows out, the ace will be your third trick; if West wins, there is only one club outstanding and you can draw it with the ace and then take your long card in the suit.

Opening lead: Nine of clubs.

Let's take at another look at a home we considered last week. Suppose someone asked you the right way to play the club combination in today's diagram. How would you reply?

The proper answer is that you don't have enough information to give an intelligent response. If you need four tricks from the suit, the correct line is to cash the ace and then finesse the jack. But what if you require only three tricks?

The auction is simple enough. In

## Bush wins big in South Carolina

COLUMBIA (AP) — Vice-President George Bush overwhelmed three rivals in South Carolina's Republican presidential primary Saturday, hoping his victory would trigger a fresh harvest of political support.

On the Democratic side, Senator Albert Gore and Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis split the prize Saturday in party caucuses in the western state of Wyoming. Wyoming Republicans divided their delegates between Bush and Sen. Bob Dole.

Both the Democratic and Republican campaigns explode this week into multi-state contests March 8 for convention delegates — 1,307 Democrat and 712 Republican. The date is dubbed "super Tuesday."

State delegates from each party selected will meet at national conventions in the summer to pick nominees for the presidential election in November.

In South Carolina, Dole edged former television evangelist Pat Robertson in the battle for second place. But with 48 per cent of the total vote, Bush won all the state's 37 delegates to the Republican convention.

Congressman Jack Kemp was fourth, putting a virtual end to his long shot hopes. Still, he said, "We're alive, we're going on."

The outcome was a setback for Robertson. He once said he would win in South Carolina, but there were indications his popularity might be waning even among his core constituency.

Bush, in North Carolina, called his victory Saturday "fantastic showing," and said, "even though we're locked in a close race, these results are going to help. I believe I will be the next president of the United States."

#### Wyoming

In Wyoming, Republicans and Democrats began selecting convention delegations. Gore and Dukakis of Massachusetts won four Democratic delegates each, while Congressman Richard Gephardt got three. Two others were uncommitted.

In the state's Republican caucuses, where 12 delegates were allotted, Dole won four, Bush won three, one was uncommitted and four were to be allotted.

Both Democrats claimed victory. Gore of the state convention delegation, Dukakis of the straw vote.

"Three days before super Tuesday is a pretty good time to have your first win," Gore said.

The Dukakis campaign cited the popular vote totals and claimed victory. Said campaign aide Leslie Dach, "Today Wyoming voters chose the one presidential candidate who can take charge of our economic future."

Gephardt said, "It was essentially a tie as I understand it."

With results from South Carolina and Wyoming, the Associated Press delegate count gave Bush 125, Dole 64, Kemp 35, and Robertson 8 delegates. A total of 712 delegates will be at stake Tuesday, more than half of the 1,399 needed for the Republican nomination.

## COLUMN

Police, students battle in Karachi

KARACHI (R) — Police opened fire Saturday to disperse students who set three buses on fire during a 90-minute battle over the arrest of a Pakistani student leader after a bank robbery at Karachi University. Doctors said at least four people, one a policeman, were wounded. Police said students used automatic weapons snatched from neighbouring Afghanistan as the battle raged through two universities over Thursday's arrest of Najeeb Ahmad, president of the Peoples Student Federation. Ahmad and two other students were arrested by police a few days after a 1.2 million rupee (\$68,500) bank robbery at Karachi University.

#### Basilica tells guides to hush

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Many a tourist has stood in awe silence inside St. Peter's Basilica, the largest church in Christendom, but now their guides will have to do the same. Basilica authorities have asked tour guides to explain the church's features to their charges while in the atrium, before walking through the main part of the church. The ANSA news agency said the church had received letters of complaints from visitors about the tour guides' speeches as tourists viewed the interior, which houses Michelangelo's Pieta as well as many other art treasures.

**First cases of AIDS reported among Brazilian Indians**

BRASILIA (R) — Authorities have reported what they believe to be the first cases of AIDS among Brazilian Indians. The government Indian agency Funai said Friday two Indians had contracted the killer disease, one in Mato Grosso and the other in the southern state of Santa Catarina. Officials said the victim in Santa Catarina had been living with a prostitute who was infected with AIDS. Funai hopes to launch an AIDS information campaign targeting the country's 220,000 Indians. Romero Juca, president of Funai, said Indians were particularly susceptible to disease introduced from outside their traditions. According to the latest official figures, 2,651 AIDS cases have been reported in Brazil.

#### Harrison says surviving Beatles may play together again

LONDON (AP) — George Harrison said Thursday night that he and the other two surviving Beatles, Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr, may soon "write a tune and play together" again. "It won't be the Beatles, of course, but it may happen and we are getting on with Paul much better than we used to," Harrison, 45, said during the recording of a television talk show.